FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Latin America

Vol VI No 140 *19 July 1984*

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

World Peace Council Holds Conference in Quito [IPS] A 1
Christian Democrat Group Denies Communist Links [AFP] A 1

ARGENTINA

Negotiations With Britain To Begin in Bern B 1
Swiss Envoy's Confirmation B 1
Caputo Releases Swiss Communique B 2
Trade Disagreement With U.S. Delays Meeting B 3
Government Hoping for Beagle Accord Before 30 Sep B 3
[BUENOS AIRES HERALD 18 Jul]
Iraqi Envoy on Prohibition of Iran Arms Sale B 4
Spokesman Denies Reports of SIDE Reorganization B 5
[BUENOS AIRES HERALD 18 Jul]
SIDE Head Comments B 5
Tax Board Promises Action Against Tax Evaders B 6
[BUENOS AIRES HERALD 18 Jul]
Commentator Views Amnesty Law, Military 'Crisis' B 6
[LA PRENSA 12 Jul]
Third of Population Reported Below Poverty Line B 9
Metalworkers March, Demand Minimum Monthly Wage B 9
[BUENOS AIRES HERALD 18 Jul]
Radicals, Peronist Youth Clash in Rosario B 10
Member of Triple A Terrorist Gang Arrested B 10

BRAZIL

Nicaraguan Vice Foreign Minister Meets Saraiva D 1
[O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO 10 Jul]
Saudi Delegation Visits Munitions Manufacturers D 1
[FOLHA DE SAO PAULO 17 Jul]
Armored Personnel Carriers Delivered to Zimbabwe D 2
[O GLOBO 17 Jul]
Efforts Made To Resolve Foreign Debt Burden D 2
Bond Conversion of Debts [O GLOBO 17 Jul] D 2
Issuing of More Money [O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO 17 Jul] D 3
Debt Renegotiation Postponed [O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO 17 Jul]
Reportage on Upcoming National Elections D 4
Maluf Optimistic D 4
PDS Asks Figueiredo Advice D 4
Maluf Will Not Step Down D 5
PDS Governors Oppose Maluf D 5
Petrobras President Reportedly To Leave Post D 5

CHILE

Rightist Groups To Be Invited To Join Government E 1
Carabineros Repress Demonstration Honoring Poet E 2
Bomb Attacks in Santiago, Rancagua, Valparaiso E 2

COLOMBIA

Extradition Treaty With U.S. May Be Revised F 1
ADO Will Not Sign Truce With Government F 2
M-19 Group Reportedly Attacks Office in Cali F 2
Briefs: French Ambassador Arrives; Military Appointments F 2

PARAGUAY

Exiled Workers Group Issues Declaration [EL PUEBLO 12 Jul] H 1
Chilean Photographer Arrested for 'Deserting' CNI H 2

URUGUAY

Oil Agreement Signed With USSR in Moscow K 1
Armed Forces Decide To Lift Ban on Broad Front K 1
Sanguinetti Comments K 1
Socialist Leader on Meeting K 2
Army Commander on Talks With Political Parties K 3
Air Force Commander on New Laws, Political Power K 4

VENEZUELA

Government Rejects Essequibo Mining Project L 1
Oil, Aid to Costa Rica, Jamaica Suspended L 1
Lusinchi On Contacts to Renew Talks With Colombia L 2
Jamaican Bank Official Arrives for Aid Talks L 2

MEXICO

Guatemala's Foreign Minister Makes 2-Day Visit M 1
Delegation of Deputies Leaves for Guatemala M 1
Mexico-China Trade Commission Meeting Opens M 1

CENTRAL AMERICA

EEC To Finance Regional Trade Through Fund P 1
[San Jose LA REPUBLICA 12 Jul]

COSTA RICA

Gutierrez Issues Note on Contadora Document P 1

EL SALVADOR

Participation in Nicaraguan Anniversary Canceled P 2
ARENA Deputy Shot by Unidentified Assailants P 2
Coprefa Reports Clashes in La Paz, San Miguel P 3
Missing Persons Relatives Committee Makes Demands P 3
[EL MUNDO 17 Jul]
FDR Leader Says Guerrillas Willing To Accept Truce P 4
Honduras Urged To Oppose U.S. Presence [Farabundo Marti] P 4
FMLN Command Thanks FRG People for Support [Venceremos] P 5
Venceremos Claims Air Force Bombs Peasant Areas P 5
Venceremos Reports Casualties Among Army Officers P 5

GUATEMALA

Mejia Says Assembly To Begin Working 1 August P 6
[EL GRAFICO 18 Jul]

HONDURAS

Paz Barnica Discusses Review of U.S. Treaties P 6
Air Force Said To Be Strongest in Region P 7
PINU Presidential Candidate Comments on Goals P 8
[LA TRIBUNA 17 Jul]

NICARAGUA

Defense Ministry on U.S. Carrier, Contra Task Force P 9
USSR's Koshoyev Praises Sandinist Revolution P 10
[EL NUEVO DIARIO 18 Jul]
Suriname's Bouterse Arrives for Celebration P 11
Borge Addresses Sandinist Assembly on Revolution P 11
PRAVDA Reports Interview With Carlos Nunez [cross-reference] P 14
State Council Vice President on U.S. Talks P 14
FSLN Invites Registered Parties to Dialogue P 14
Opposition Seeks Postponement P 15

CUBA

USSR's Gromyko Awarded Order of Jose Marti Q 1
New U.S. Naval Training Exercise Noted Q 1
U.S. Tuna Embargo Against Mexico Discussed Q 1
Visa Holders Delayed in Departure for Panama, U.S. Q 2
[Panama City Circuito RPC]
Castro Hails Nicaragua on Sandinist Anniversary Q 2
Further Report Q 2
'Our America' Praises Sandinist Achievements Q 3
Nicaragua's Revolution Anniversary Celebrated Q 4
Poland's Vice Minister of National Defense Visits Q 5
Tours FAR Academy Q 5
Panamanian Assemblymen End Visit, Depart Q 5
Delegations To Attend Nicaraguan Events Q 6
CSSR Delegation Visits En Route Q 6
USSR Delegation in Nicaragua Q 6
Cubans Arrive in Managua Q 7
FSLN Nominates D. Ortega, Ramirez for Elections Q 7
Nicaragua's Borge Explains Priests' Expulsion Q 7
Lisbon Meeting Invitations Criticized by Socialists Q 8
El Salvador's Duarte Secures Resumption of FRG Aid Q 8
Uruguayan Regime Lifts Measures, Seeks Dialogue Q 8
Uruguayan Armed Forces To Release Prisoners Q 9
Uruguay's 26 March Movement Aide on Elections Q 9
Chileans Ask Mexico's Help To Save Kidnapped Exiles Q 10
C.R. Rodriguez Presides at Graduation Ceremony Q 10
Cabrizas Addresses Foreign Trade Graduates Q 10

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Pena Gomez Returns From Trip With European Aid R 1
[LISTIN DIARIO 12 Jul]

CARIBBEAN

BAHAMAS

Demonstrators Demand Pindling's Resignation S 1

BERMUDA

Tourism Minister Dismissed From Cabinet S 1

DOMINICA

DLP Calls Charles' Statements 'Irresponsible' S 2

JAMAICA

Bank Denies Report on Suspension of Oil Aid S 2

ST VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

Sugar Production Up 427.3 Tons Over 1983 S 3

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Parties Issue Joint Statement on 'Unity' S 4

GUYANA

Burnham Will Not Attend U.S. Conference T 1
President To Meet With Bouterse, Rawlings T 1
Vice President Departs for Nicaragua Celebrations T 1

WORLD PEACE COUNCIL HOLDS CONFERENCE IN QUITO

PA170436 Rome IPS in Spanish 0045 GMT 17 Jul 84

[Text] Quito, 16 Jul (IPS) -- WPC President Romesh Chandra today said in Ecuador that "there will be not a third but a final world war," as he spoke on the dangers of a nuclear confrontation.

Chandra, an Indian, made the statement during the opening of the "Peace, Democracy and Human Rights" international conference that began today in Quito. The conference will end on 18 July.

In Chandra's opinion, the Reagan administration has brought mankind closer to a nuclear conflict.

Continuing, he said that Nicaragua "is being attacked because it has stood up for itself and refused to kneel."

"If Nicaragua falls, we will all fall," he stressed.

The meeting, which was organized by the WPC, is sponsored by the Latin American Human Rights Association, ALDHU, which is headed by former Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez, a Social Democrat, and by Ecuador's National Journalists Union.

Delegates from 20 countries will discuss two main topics: "The Danger of a Nuclear Holocaust and the Struggle for World Peace" and "Problems of Peace, Democracy, and Human Rights in Latin America."

Participants include former Mexican President Luis Echeverria and Sandinist Commander Olga Aviles, an official of the Nicaraguan Government.

Ecuadoran Foreign Minister Luis Valencia, who also spoke at the opening of the event, agreed with Chandra when he stated that in a nuclear war "there will be neither winners nor losers, only victims."

We are facing a state of collective anxiety in regard to the dangers confronting man's survival as a species, the Ecuadoran foreign minister said concerning the dangers of a nuclear confrontation.

CHRISTIAN DEMOCRAT GROUP DENIES COMMUNIST LINKS

PY181819 Paris AFP in Spanish 1518 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Santiago, 18 Jul (AFP) -- Andres Zaldivar, president of the World Union of Christian Democrats, (UDM) today stated that there is no agreement at all between his organization and communist groups to act jointly in Latin America.

Reports from Spain mentioned this week an understanding between the UDM and the Communist International to support all the democratizing processes in the region.

In a telephone interview from Madrid by the Santiago daily ULTIMAS NOTICIAS, Zaldivar stated that the only thing that is certain is that the World Union of Social Democrats led by Willy Brandt, the UDM, and World Union of Liberal Parties led by the Italian Malagodi, agreed in April in Rome to act jointly in the Latin American process.

There have been no contacts, neither now nor in the past, with an alleged Communist international organization, Zaldivar added. According to Zaldivar, he did not mention the reported consensus between the Christian Democratic parties and the communists in a recent lecture in Barcelona, a lecture that apparently served as a basis for reports that have now been denied.

NEGOTIATIONS WITH BRITAIN TO BEGIN IN BERN

PY181250 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0836 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 18 Jul (TELAM) -- According to what diplomatic sources have told the morning daily CLARIN, Argentina and Great Britain are to begin confidential negotiations aimed at resuming bilateral relations which were severed in April 1982 on the occasion of the war over the sovereignty of the Malvinas Islands.

The spokesmen said that the first confidential meeting with British Foreign Office officials will be held within the next couple of hours in Bern, Switzerland, and that Argentina will be represented by Jorge Sabato, Argentine Foreign Ministry secretary for special and security affairs. The sources added that Ambassadors Carlos Ortiz de Rozas and Federico Mirres will also be present at the meeting, which aims to improve bilateral relations between the two countries.

Although it is still not known who will represent the British at the negotiations, the sources noted that the British delegation may be headed by Minister of State for the Foreign and Commonwealth Office Baroness Young.

They added that the Argentine representatives left last Saturday for Rome, from where they headed for Athens to attend an international meeting on disarmament.

Swiss Envoy's Confirmation

PY181555 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1540 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 18 Jul (TELAM) -- Argentine and British representatives today began in Bern (Switzerland) meetings headed by the secretary of the Swiss Federal Foreign Department, according to Jean Pierre Keusch, the Swiss ambassador in this capital. The diplomat represents, as ambassador, the British interests in Argentina since Buenos Aires and London broke relations due to the Malvinas Islands conflict in 1982.

In a press communique released by the Swiss Embassy in this capital it was reported that the meeting will be attended by a representative of the Brazilian Government which represents Argentine interests in Great Britain.

The dialogue between Argentina and Great Britain is being carried out an the invitation of the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs headed by Edward Brunner.

Ambassador Keusch explained that the contacts are in response to the effort made by the Swiss Government to exert good offices, a basic aspect of the Swiss policy of neutrality.

The Swiss ambassador added: "We believe that it is useful and appropriate to undertake confidential consultations with authorities from the two countries at the foreign inistry level and both countries showed interest in holding an informal meeting with an open agenda."

The diplomat noted that Switzerland aims to offer the proper conditions that will allow these two countries that maintain friendly ties with Switzerland to start a dialogue and he added that it will be up to the two parties to inform the press on the results of these meetings.

Keusch also noted that [word indistinct] President Alfonsin, we sent a message we received from the British Prime Minister's Office that was answered by President Alfonsin and later we submitted proposals made by the United Kingdom to normalize relations between the two countries.

In response to a question, the Swiss ambassador noted that an invitation sent to Buenos Aires and London by the Swiss Foreign Affairs Department was submitted a few days ago.

The full text of the communique reads as follows: "In response to an invitation extended by the Swiss Foreign Affairs Department, representatives from the Republic of Argentina and the United Kingdom are holding meetings in Bern as of today. The meetings will be headed by the foreign affairs secretary of state, with the assistance of a representative from the Federative Republic of Brazil. Buenos Aires, 18 July 1984."

Caputo Releases Swiss Communique

PY181620 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1556 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 18 Jul (TELAM) -- Argentina today accepted an invitation to an informal exchange of ideas with the United Kingdom without a preestablished agenda to discuss any issue, without exception.

Foreign Minister Dante Caputo announced at noon that at this time, 1200 Argentine time and 1700 in Bern, the Swiss Government is releasing the following official communique:

"At the invitation of the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, representatives of the Argentine Republic and the United Kingdom will meet in Bern starting today. The meeting will be chaired by the secretary of the Swiss Federal Department of foreign Affairs with the assistance of a representative of the Federative Republic of Brazil."

The communique read by Foreign Minister Caputo goes on to say that "the Argentine Foreign Ministry believes it necessary to say that the invitation was made in order to facilitate the informal exchange of ideas without a preestablished agenda, that is, any issue, without exception, can be discussed."

The communique adds that "under these conditions the Argentine Government has accepted the invitation of the Swiss Government. The delegation of our country is made up of Marcelo Delpech, under secretary of southern and border affairs; Juan Carlos Katzenstein, ambassador to Switzerland; and adviser Federico Mirres. This Foreign Ministry will release a communique at the conclusion of the meeting."

Before reading this communique Caputo said that the Argentine democracy and the national government have made a commitment to answer the challenge of this era including, as sustained during the electoral campaign, a negotiated and peaceful solution to international conflicts. In his impromptu statements, he added that the most serious of these conflicts is that which arises from the confrontation with the United Kingdom to restore the archipelago of the South Atlantic to Argentine sovereignty. He said: We have decided to achieve this goal through the holding of peaceful negotiations by putting forth our proposals in an open discussion which cannot exclude the discussion of the sovereignty issue.

He noted that "we believe that a diplomatic solution should be based on a discussion having an open agenda, without any exclusions, and we have said so to the British Government in the exchange of notes that were disclosed last February."

After pointing out that he was making this announcement with great pleasure and in a responsible manner, he immediately proceeded to read the aforementioned communique.

TRADE DISAGREEMENT WITH U.S. DELAYS MEETING

PY180244 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0120 GMT 18 Jul

[Text] Buenos Aires, 17 Jul (NA) -- A very clear difference of opinion regarding international trade today nearly jeopardized the joint Argentine-U.S. document that emerged at the end of the fifth meeting of the joint binational commission that is meeting in this capital, according to reliable sources. Argentine Trade Secretary Ricardo Campero and U.S. Under Secretary for Economic Affairs W. Allen Wallis debated the question for 4 hours, from 1715 to 2115, until in the end an agreement was reached to release a common text, but in which each party explains his independent position.

A press conference that had been called for 1730 to report on the meeting was finally held at 2130. During this time the journalists, officials from both parties, and other personnel waited for the decision to be made at the headquarters of the Central Bank, where the meeting was held.

At 1715 Campero and Wallis revised the draft that had been outlined by their aides, and that is when a very clear difference of opinions emerged regarding the U.S. position favoring the reopening of the Argentine economy and the Argentine stand against the protectionism that is being applied in the United States against certain Argentine products. It has been learned that this last point was resolved at 1930 with a brief reference to it in the text, but without stressing concrete demands. It has also been learned that this was done at Wallis' request, because the mention of steel would have caused him complications with United Steel.

The debate then continued over the U.S. demand that Argentina express its acceptance of a progressive return to the reopening of the economy. Finally, regarding this topic, an intermediate solution was opted for, indicating that international trade freedom must be implemented because it favors humanity.

The majority of the text, although it is signed by both officials, contains the opinions of each, marking their disagreement over the topics.

It must be said that when the press conference took place most of those who had anything to do with the meeting had already left and that only a few members of both delegations remained, together with a group of journalists, as most of them, too, had left.

GOVERNMENT HOPING FOR BEAGLE ACCORD BEFORE 30 SEP

PY181815 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 18 Jul 84 p 11

[Text] (NA-DYN) The government is hoping to submit the agreement with Chile on the Beagle Channel dispute to Congress long before September 30 in order to obtain parliamentary approval during the current ordinary sessions, a top government source said yesterday.

The source said the Argentine and Chilean delegations to the mediation talks in the Vatican were working directly on a draft of the agreement and will work straight through the Vatican recess in August.

The agreement will guarantee the bioceanic principle and Argentina's projection on the Antarctic but will grant Chile sovereignty over the islands of Lennox, Picton, and Nueva at the eastern end of the Beagle Channel, the source added. According to the source, the bioceanic principle will be established by setting the Cape Horn meridian from Cape Horn southwards as the maritime border between the two courtries. Chile will only have maritime sovereignty in a 12-mile strip around the islands but Argentines will be able to navigate the strip without restrictions, the source said.

General Ricardo Etcheverry Boneo, the head of the Argentine delegation in the mediation talks, said yesterday the bioceanic principle was guaranteed in agreements reached so far in the talks, but he did not give details.

Etcheverry Boneo met with President Raul Alfonsin and Foreign Minister Dante Caputo to report on progress in the talks. He said later the meeting would continue today or tomorrow. He refused, however, to comment on reports that he intended to resign as head of the delegation or that an agreement might be signed within 30 to 60 days. But he did say an agreement could be expected before the year's end.

Vice President Victor Martinez, meanwhile, denied having said on Monday that the agreement could be signed within 30 to 60 days. He explained that when asked whether an agreement was imminent, he replied: "By imminent one can mean hours, 30 or 60 days, or months," He added that "one cannot set time limits in these matters, but what we want fundamentally is that a solution be reached as soon as possible through papal mediation, which is the way we chose."

IRAQI ENVOY ON PROHIBITION OF IRAN ARMS SALE

PY181510 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2025 GMT 17 Jul 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 17 Jul (NA) -- Iraqi Ambassador to Argentina Mundhir Ahmad al-Mutlaq today expressed his gratitude to President Raul Alfonsin for his decision to prohibit the sale of two Argentine missile-carrying frigates to Iran in May. Among other things, he also reasserted Baghdad's support for Argentine claims over the Malvinas.

In May, the Argentine Government prohibited the sale of two British-made missile-carrying frigates to Iran in order to reassert its neutrality in the Iranian-Iraqi conflict. Argentina was going to sell the frigates to Madegascar, which would later resell them to Iran. According to reports made by diplomatic sources, the U.S. Government exerted strong pressure on Argentina to prevent the sale. The British Government had also warned that it would not provide any parts to Iran if it purchased the frigates.

The Iraqi ambassador made these and other statements to NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS during a reception at the Iraqi Embassy to mark the 16th anniversary of the revolution which led to the advent of the present Iraqi Government. Former Army Chief of Staff Jorge Arguindegui, retired, Economy Minister Bernardo Grinspun, Public Works and Services Minister Roque Carranza, Radical Deputies Federico Storani and Carlos Becerra, Federal Party President Francisco Manrique, Peronist leader Antonio Cafiero, and businessman Jorge Antonio were present, among others.

In statements to NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS, the Iraqi ambassador stressed that Alfonsin's decision "shows the wisdom of the president and his goodwill toward the Arab world" and it proves that the Argentine Government "understands the circumstances of the region and the need to enforce peace."

"The wise decision made by President Alfonsin is a positive attitude which we hope will be maintained," he added. The Iraqi diplomat also exhorted "an increase in commercial and cultural ties between the two countries to strengthen our solid political relations." He recalled that the reconstruction process which was started in Iraq after the revolution started by the Ba'th Socialist Party, which is headed by Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, reasserted Iraq's peaceful objectives. However, he made it clear that "wars compel countries to defend the lives of their people and above all their gains."

Ambassador Mundhir al-Mutlaq maintained that his country has always agreed with the peace resolutions of the United Nations, the Nonaligned Movement, and the Arab organizations, resolutions which have been "completely and categorically rejected by Iran."

"This is the reason why the Iraqi people defend themselves from the Khamene'i-led aggression, which seeks to export the unfortunate Iranian revolution to our people," he added.

In conclusion, Mundhir al-Mutlaq asserted that the resistance of the Iraqi forces to the barbarous Iranian attack was bold and strong enough to stop all offensives and attain a far-reaching victory.

SPOKESMAN DENIES REPORTS OF SIDE REORGANIZATION

PY181755 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 18 Jul 84 p 9

[Text] (NA) -- "No changes are planned in the organization of SIDE (the State Information Secretariat)," presidential spokesman Jose Ignacio Lopez told reporters yesterday.

Lopez denied reports that SIDE Director Roberto Pena would be replaced, possibly by retired Brigadier-General Braulio Sanchez Avalos. Pena and his staff "enjoy the confidence of the president," Lopez added. Reliable sources earlier reported Pena would be replaced and given another high-level government post.

Sanchez Avalos was retired during the recent Army reshufflings -- apparently only because he had a higher seniority-level than the new Chief-of-Staff Guillermo Pianta -- and his name as a possible replacement for Pena was reportedly offered by Defence Minister Raul Borras.

SIDE Head Comments

PY181755 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1516 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 18 Jul (DYN) -- Roberto Pena, head of the Secretariat for State Intelligence (SIDE), today agreed that he expects to leave his post soon but said that he would not leave the agency in the hands of someone from the Armed Forces. While talking with reporters after his 2-hour meeting with the members of the Defense Commission of the Chamber of Deputies, Pena was asked about reports of his replacement as SIDE's head. Pena said that he was not in a position to "talk about the intentions" of those who spread those reports. "I am the first civilian secretary (at SIDE), which explains why some sectors oppose my holding this position," Pena said.

Concerning the matters discussed with the deputies, Pena said that they were related to defense only.

In response to another question, Pena agreed that there have been some layoffs among the SIDE personnel since he took over and that SIDE's expenditures have been cut back. "The personnel has been slightly reduced and the budget has been significantly reduced," Pena said.

Lastly, upon being questioned on whether he was staying in his post, Pena said that he is staying "for the time being" but that he expects "that it will not be for a long time."

TAX BOARD PROMISES ACTION AGAINST TAX EVADERS

PY181750 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 18 Jul 84 p 3

[Text] (DYN) -- Federal police and the General Tax Board (DGI) will begin cooperative action against the "big evaders" and not just the "small contributors" as of August 1, the under-secretary of tax administration said yesterday.

Luis Fadda told Lower House Budget and Finance Committee members that tax evaders will be severely punished and that merchandise may be impounded if it is found that businesses have improperly entered these in accounting books.

Sanctions will be levied against persons found altering their tax identification number and against transport operators found working without the proper documentation, he added. In addition, banks may be asked to help in collecting taxes in those areas where no local DGI office exists.

Fadda also estimated that his department will have finished work on a tax reform bill within four months. The bill's objective is to increase tax revenues from 21 to 25 percent of the gross domestic product, he said. Fadda added, though, that it is currently impossible to determine the level of tax evasion due to the lack of technical resources.

COMMENTATOR VIEWS AMNESTY LAW, MILITARY 'CRISIS'

PY172305 Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 12 Jul 84 pp 1, 8

[Commentary by J. Iglesias Rouco: "Amnesty and Purge"]

[Text] Those who believe in the theory, if you can call it that, of government decisions, state that the president is willing to implement substantial changes in the course, or lack of course, of not only Argentine foreign policy but also of domestic policy. So while some reportedly have already started to draft a new memo for the IMF with the intention of adding it to the famous letter of intention, thus allowing Mr de Larosiere to resume a dialogue with Buenos Aires while Mr Grinspun is getting ready to enforce a new increase in taxes, although this is nothing new, other areas of the government have begun to study the possibility of issuing by the end of the year an amnesty law or a law of national reconciliation aimed at closing once and for all the painful chapter of the "dirty war" and its consequences.

According to Radical Civic Union [UCR] sources, President Alfonsin and [Defense Minister] Borras firmly support this project in view of both the slowness and the legal difficulties that appear to be impairing the activities of the Armed Forces Supreme Council (and the entire system created for this purpose) as well as the increasing agitation that this "revision," and particularly its effects, are causing within the military institutions. Thus, a government, and the executive and the judicial branches as well as the military are all part of this government, that was quite able to "whitewash" Mrs Peron is now unable to make the leaders of the "process" answer for their responsibilities in the "dirty war" and thus to safeguard through legal means those who limited themselves to fulfilling orders, as Mr Alfonsin promised before 30 October (both to the electorate and to the then military hierarchy). The government is also unable to make the mass media handle the issue with the prudence that is required. Therefore, if it ever comes about, the amnesty law will be a last resort, if not to rebuild the principle of a state of law, to at least appease the spirits and even to reconcile the people for the sake of the nation's future. In this sense, it is worthy of praise.

But perhaps what cannot be the subject of praise are the plans that some official sectors are promoting to "deepen" the military crisis; that is, to continue and even to hasten the "purge" within the Armed Forces, a purge through which the great majority of generals and their counterparts in the Navy and Air Force and colonels on active service would be retired in the next few months. According to our sources, the "purge" reportedly will be carried out in a "selective" manner, but by the end of the year (or before) it would acquire massive proportions.

According to these sources, the increasing debates on the various national defense draft laws, or the "reorganization" of the Armed Forces, in addition to the internal squabbles over the Army leadership, will be the proper vehicle to provoke successive "crises" and consequently replacements whenever the agitation over the present "revision" dies down. Until that time, the "selectiveness" will continue to do its work. For example, it is with this objective in mind that the cannons reportedly have already been pointed at some military officers known as "nationalists" and populists, like Colonel Simon Arguello, whom unofficial sources have accused of trying to organize a military uprising on 4 July after the ouster of General Arguindegui with the objective of supporting the latter's continuing as Army chief of staff.

There is no doubt that Colonel Arguello's multiple union and Peronist party connections, which he has cultivated over the past few years in fulfillment of orders from his superiors, have made him an attractive prey of those who favor a general "purge." Yesterday some of Arguello's comrades assured us that the rumors about his alleged participation in the events on the evening of 4 July (he reportedly tried to mobilize the tanks in Tandil and Magdalena) are completely false since at that time Arguello was in his house, where he learned about Arguindegui's replacement through a telephone call from the Joint Staff office late at night. But the truth of the matter is that the case of Arguello, Gonzalez, and other officers is strictly a "political" matter and, therefore, it does not really matter whether or not these charges are true.

Nor are the documents that Arguello submitted in 1975 in defense of the constitutional order (the "process" appointed him interventor in the Casa Corrientes and delayed his promotion) because that organization was a Peronist labor union, just as Peronist and unionist as the military-union pact of 1982-1983 in which quite a number of officers were involved. But it is well known that now the only pact that counts is the union-UCR pact, and according to many nationalist military officers, so does the "Radical-military of the process" pact.

Of the "process"? Precisely, because, so they say, Arguindegui's fall has resulted in the relative consolidation of the "professionals" of the previous military regime and, particularly, of those officers who surrounded Videla and Viola, such as General Pino, Viola's former private secretary and the present commander of the II Corps; General Sanchez, an officer who was very close to Videla; General Minicucci, who was also close to Videla during the "process"; and the stronger position of General Fernandez Torres, who was very close to Viola and Villarreal and who was recently in conflict with General Arguindegui. Colonel Gorleri (formerly an aide to Videla). Colonel Flores, who also belonged to the same group of men, Colonel Medrano Caro, and Colonel Dasso, all of whom have been proposed for promotions to general, also won some points during this crisis (although Basso's dossier is at the top of the others).

Oddly enough, last week's events have eliminated or practically eliminated from the Army leadership those military officers like Arguindegui and Arguello who had nothing to do with the "dirty war," while, according to the nationalists, officers like Colonel Ramirez, the chief of the Cordoba Airborne Brigade, who was included in one of General Mansilla's demands, and was, therefore, one of the causes of the crisis, and who is one of the Videla-Viola "professionals," remains in his post. According to the "nationalists," these are "the children of the process"; in other words, the successors of generals such as Reston, Villarreal, Liendo, Bussi, Montes, Sasiain, Martella, etc. Moreover, Arguindegui and his friends included them in the list of their alleged "destabilizers" (since the former chief of staff had not granted the former military chiefs of the "process" all the protection they desired from the Libertador building as of 10 December).

But of course, these charges raised by the nationalists are based on incomplete evidence. For example, it is still not known what moved Defense Minister Borras, who on 2 July agreed with Arguindegui to remove Mansilla, to deny it on 3 July and to decide on Wednesday to remove both Mansilla and Arguindegui. The nationalists, or "national-populists," do not take into account when they refer to "the children of the process" that Generals Pianta, Benito, Aguado Benitez, and Rodriguez Spada and Colonels and Lieutenant Colonels Gonzalez, Seineldin, Riveiro, Guerrieri, and Arguello himself, to name a few, have not been touched by Alfonsin's broom, despite the fact that they are members of the nationalist group, or at least of the "non-liberal" Army sector of the "process," and that one of them, Sanchez Avalos, has retired. In short, what is clear is that the Army continues to be absorbed in internal political disputes while history follows its own path. Therefore, the idea of carrying out a general purge as is being argued over by the most radical antimilitary wings of the UCR and other parties will surely find the barracks' doors quite open despite the esprit de corps existing among the military officers of any given orientation.

However, it is still to be seen whether a purge of such proportions will be beneficial for the country, and in the long run for the government, because despite everything that has been said, it will demand, first of all, time and additional determination; and it will imply a deterioration of its own authority at a time when the serious socio-economic situation demands a joint national effort. In the second place, a "new" Armed Forces will also pose new problems, because although the men who will be appointed will come from the ruling party, and precisely because of it, they will constitute a new power that will be less dependent on the new government than the present military is in practice. Lastly, this military "revolution" may also propagate its "revolutionary" ingredients, "revolutionary" noninstitutional, to other national levels; that is, to go beyond the government itself and even the constitutional order. At any rate, it will go beyond the promises and objectives expressed by Mr Alfonsin on 30 October.

THIRD OF POPULATION REPORTED BELOW POVERTY LINE

WA191105 Rome IPS in English 14 Jul 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, July 14 (IPS) -- Almost one third of Argentines live below the poverty line, and their numbers are growing, according to a government report released here today. 7.6 million people, 28 percent of the population, are classified as living in "extreme poverty" by the National Statistics and Census Institute (INDEC) study.

The report was prepared as a basis for the government's National Food Plan (PAN), launched two months ago by President Raul Alfonsin as a response to nutritional deficiencies among the poorest Argentines.

Some 600,000 food packages, each containing enough basic supplies for a family of four for a week, have been distributed so far under the program. PAN workers who deliver the food also provide recipients with guidance on nutrition and infant care.

The INDEC report, titled "Poverty in Argentina," finds poverty in "critical pockets within the overall social panorama, persistent, but of relatively moderate size." Nonetheless, it adds, "There are a number of indicators that recent economic and social developments have led to an increase in the number of homes which cannot meet their basic needs, and to a proliferation of 'poverty pockets' throughout the country."

The government is currently battling an inflation rate running at over 600 percent a year, while seeking at the same time to reactivate the economy.

Poverty is most prevalent in the north of the country, with 46 percent of families in the Province of Santiago del Estero below the poverty line, and 47 percent in the same situation in Formosa, next door to Paraguay. In the capital itself, the report found only 7.4 percent of inhabitants suffering extreme poverty, although Buenos Aires is ringed by an industrial belt where some two million people live in appalling conditions. One of the study's most striking findings was the number of children under six who live in poor homes -- 40 percent of the total.

INDEC judged poverty not only by family income, but also by living conditions -- whether more than three people share a room, whether a house has a lavatory and running water, and whether school age children were attending school.

METALWORKERS MARCH, DEMAND MINIMUM MONTHLY WAGE

PY181808 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 18 Jul 84 p 9

[Excerpt] (DYN-NA) -- The Metal Workers Union (UOM) held its biggest march since 1975, drawing over 10,000 members yesterday to Government House to demand a $a15,000 [pesos] minimum monthly salary.

The unified General Confederation of Labour (CGT), meanwhile, prepared for today's meeting with Labour Secretary Roberto Bigatti by issuing a statement warning the government that "time is up." Discussion is expected to centre on setting a wage "floor." The government is reportedly offering $a10,500 while the CGT demands $a14,000. Labour Minister Juan Manuel Casella cannot himself meet with CGT leaders, it was announced, on account of illness.

Backing a nationwide 14-hour strike called by the UOM, thousands of workers from Avellaneda, La Matanza, Caseros, and other Greater Buenos Aires areas marched first on the Labour Ministry and then headed for Government House and the Trade Secretariat, where insults were hurled at Secretary Ricardo Campero.

The UOM has criticized the secretariat's resolution barring firms from granting wage hikes over government-established guidelines. The UOM is the only major industrial union not to have settled its pay dispute.

RADICALS, PERONIST YOUTH CLASH IN ROSARIO

PY171515 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1040 GMT 17 Jul 84

[Text] Rosario, 17 Jul (TELAM) -- Several incidents which required police intervention took place last night in Rosario when some 2,500 Radical Civic Union [UCR] demonstrators gathered in front of the local municipality building to voice their support for Mayor Mario Usandizaga and were harassed by groups of municipality workers, who were later joined by youngsters carrying Peronist Youth signs.

During the UCR rally, which was held in front of the municipality building located on the northern corner of 25 de Mayo Square, a group of demonstrators carrying signs of the Peronist Youth movement and municipality workers, who have been on a state of alert for the past 22 days, gathered. The two latter groups started to harass the UCR people who left upon a request by Rosario Government Secretary Angel Dambrosio.

Leading the Peronist and municipality workers group were many Justicialist Party councilmen and leaders, among them the leader of the Rosario Justicialist Party, Luis Ghezzi, and Councilmen Gualberto Venesia and [first name not given] Lizondo who tried to calm the people. However, the demonstrators hurled all kind of objects at the municipality building, breaking the panes of some windows.

Upon orders issued by Santa Fe Government Minister Eduardo Cevallo the police intervened to disperse the demonstrators who at the time were approximately 1,000 persons. In a scene of great confusion, many shots were fired [words indistinct]. Police swept across the square dispersing the troublemakers who then moved to the Cordoba promenade, damaging several shops and burning garbage cans. It is not known whether there were arrests during the incidents.

MEMBER OF TRIPLE A TERRORIST GANG ARRESTED

PY112246 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 2000 GMT 11 Jul 84

[Text] Another member of the Anibal Gordon gang has been arrested. Ernesto Lorenzo, alias "Major Guzman," is charged with being a member of the gang that worked for the Triple A organization and is held responsible for several extortive kidnappings. Police sources reported that several high-caliber weapons and powerful equipment were found in Lorenzo's home.

With the detention of this criminal, several actions, such as the abduction of Julio Barbaro, Guillermo Patricio Kelly, Maximo (Italiesa), Uruguayan businessman Victorio (Muscola), Ricardo Daniel Esposito, Alberto (Sagli) and Alberto (Di Melda), have been clarified.

NICARAGUAN VICE FOREIGN MINISTER MEETS SARAIVA

PY131800 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 10 Jul 84 p 2

[Text] Nicaraguan Vice Foreign Minister Jose Leon Talavera yesterday assured Foreign Affairs Minister Saraiva Guerreiro that in August the Sandinist Government will start the final arrangements for elections to be held in November. For this, Managua is receiving help from Switzerland and Sweden. The visiting minister started that those elections are a necessary step to consolidate the country's institutionalization process.

Leon, who visited Argentina before coming to Brazil, reasserted the Sandinist government's desire to maintain dialogue and negotiations, and reiterated its support for the Contadora Group -- formed by Mexico, Venezuela, Colombia, and Panama -- that seeks a political solution to the Central American conflict. Healso noted the "valuable support" Brazil is giving that group.

The Nicaraguan vice minister evaluated the recent agreements reached with Ronald Reagan's administration, highlighted by the visit to Managua of U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, who met with Nicaraguan leader Daniel Ortega. Leon also referred to the economic difficulties Nicaragua is enduring, mainly as a consequence of world recession. He added that his country expects support from its Latin American and Third World fellow countries to overcome those problems.

Jose Leon Talavera, who was received at Itamaraty by Foreign Affairs Minister Saraiva Guerreiro, was also received by Secretary General Carlos Calero Rodriguez, and by Rubens Ricupero, head of the Department for American Affairs. The Sandinists wish to receive financial and political support from Brazil. Figueiredo's government is already granting Nicaragua financial aid through a $50-million credit line. However, Managua still deems its political support insufficient, since Brazil limits itself to granting diplomatic support to the Contadora Group.

Daniel Ortega and his government would like Brazil to denounce U.S. interventionism in Central America and the aggression against Nicaragua. Itamaraty said nothing when the United States sailed part of its fleet to Nicaraguan coasts; and when the Nicaraguan ports were mined, it only invoked the general principle condemning all types of intervention in the area. Moreover, Foreign Affairs Minister Saraiva Guerreiro has turned down an invitation extended to him by Daniel Ortega to attend the fifth anniversary of the Sandinist revolution, on 19 July.

SAUDI DELEGATION VISITS MUNITIONS MANUFACTURERS

PY181910 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 17 Jul 84 p 7

[Text] Yesterday silence surrounded the visit made by the Saudi Arabian mission, headed by Major General Yusuf Ibrahim al-Sallun, to the Specialized Engineering Inc. installations in Interlagos and Ribeiro Pires. He is in search of Brazilian military materiel. This and other companies which are reportedly on the agenda of the Saudi Arabian mission -- Brazilian Airspace Industry [Avibras], Brazilian Ammunitions Company [CBS], Bernardini, and DF Vasconcellos -- said through their spokesmen that they were not aware of any contacts with the Saudis. Discretion is common among most buyers who impose on manufacturers a clause of secrecy in the signed contracts and in the ones under negotiations.

Al-Sallun himself gave orders to his chief of personal security not to allow journalists to come near. Yesterday afternoon a FOLHA reporter was politely requested not to go close to the officer in front of the hotel where he and his delegation are staying.

People connected to this line of business said that the Saudi Arabians, who have great influence in the Middle East and the Persian Gulf are frequent clients of the Brazilian military industry, not only for direct purchases but also through triangular operations which they finance with their petrodollars to purchase materials to be delivered to third countries. This is what reprotedly happened with the Tucano military training airplanes sold unassembled by Brazilian Aeronautics Company [Embraer] to Egypt which after assembling it promised to deliver to Iraq. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia financed the entire operation.

ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIERS DELIVERED TO ZIMBABWE

PY181708 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 17 Jul 84 p 17

[Text] Harare, Zimbabwe -- Specialized Engineers, Inc. (Engesa) yesterday delivered to the Zimbabwean Army the Cascavel armored personnel trucks that were purchased by that African country last year. The ceremony was presided over by Prime Minister Robert Mugabe, who is also Zimbabwe's defense minister. Mugabe refused to disclose the number of armored personnel trucks purchased.

This is the largest arms purchase made by the Zimbabwean Armed Forces since the country, formerly Rhodesia, became independent from Great Britain 4 years ago, the local press reported. These armored personnel trucks will be used to combat the antigovernment troops led by Joshua Nkomo in Matabeland Province.

Mugabe stated that the Cascavel is fitted with 90-mm guns with a 6-km firing range and machineguns. Diplomatic sources, who asked that they be not identified, stated that the Zimbabwean soldiers have been trained by Brazilian advisers for operating the armored personnel trucks.

EFFORTS MADE TO RESOLVE FOREIGN DEBT BURDEN

Bond Conversion of Debts

PY181905 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 17 Jul 84 p 19

[Text] Brasilia -- Finance Minister Ernane Galveas has recommended that the Central Bank analyze the proposal submitted to him by the president of the Union of Swiss Banks, Robert Holzach, asking that part of the $2.5 billion Brazilian debt with Swiss banks be transformed into bonds that will be sold on the Swiss market.

Upon giving this information, after he had lunch with Galveas, Holzach, who is a representative of the largest Brazilian creditor in Switzerland and a member of the Advisory Committee on the Brazilian Foreign Debt, said that in his country the Brazilian bonds enjoy great receptivity. Holzach recalled that 4 years ago the Brazilian Treasury negotiated securities at the Swiss market and, at the time of their redemption, made a 30-percent profit on them.

According to Holzach, for Brazil to obtain better payment terms for its debt with the Swiss banks an alternative would be to convert the foreign debt into Swiss francs, something which would yield a substantial profit for the Brazilian Government since the interest rates that are collected in Switzerland are 50 percent less than the ones set when dollars are used as a base. While the Swiss banks charge fixed rates of 7 percent over 8 years, international market rates are now at 13 percent.

The Swiss banks, said Holzach, favor fixed rates, and not rates that change every 7 months as is the case with the Libor [London Interbank Offered rate], plus spreads [in English] (risk rates). Holzach also advocated that all financing be related to the completion deadlines of the project. As an example, he cited Itaipu.

"This project should be financed in such a way that the income derived from the energy sales is sufficient for paying back the principal and the interests of the loan." Holzach said.

The Swiss banks feel that the interest rates in the international market, chiefly the ones related to the dollar, "are extremely high." They do not want these rates to stabilize at this level because they may harm the economic programs of countries like Brazil, Holzach added.

"Everybody expects that taxes will go down and stay at a lower level. However, when this will take place and by what percentage is hard to predict," Holzach stated.

Issuing of More Money

PY182154 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 17 Jul 84 p 17

[Excerpts] The president of the Republic yesterday requested the authorization of the National Congress to issue 1.9 trillion cuzeiros to cover the needs to expand the monetary base (primary issuance of paper money). This alters the 1984 monetary budget which provided for a maximum 50-percent expansion of the existing balance of means of payment (paper money in the hands of the public plus the site deposits in commercial banks) and the monetary base, which could now exceed 100 percent.

This year the government was authorized to issue paper money for the equivalent of 10 percent of the means of payment balance up to 31 December 1983, that is, approximately 700 billion cruzeiros. However, up to 28 June the government had already issued 730 billion cruzeiros, that is, 9.4 percent of the balance up to 31 December 1983. Should the government be authorized to issue 1.9 trillion cruzeiros, it will have issued more than 30 percent of the balance up to the end of last year.

Debt Renegotiation Postponed

PY182342 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 17 Jul 84 p 29

[Text] Alleging that time now is on Brazil's side, the director of the Foreign Department of the Brazilian Central Bank, Jose Carlos Madeira Serrano, yesterday said that the country does not need to hasten the start of the next stage of the debt renegotiation. He said that the country may wait until November, when it will have better internal figures to show to bankers and also when it will have been able to evaluate the outcome of the negotiations of other countries.

The renegotiation of the Mexican debt and those of other large debtors will help Brazil define the base of the renegotiation of its debt, which will become overdue at the beginning of 1985.

During the talks with bankers, such as this one held yesterday during a luncheon with the chairman of the Union of Swiss Banks, Robert Holzach, Finance Minister Ernane Galveas and Central Bank President Alfonso Celso Pastore will seek to point out that, contrary to what has happened in the last 2 years, Brazil is in an excellent position to pay its debts, which will allow it to determine the moment to negotiate with its creditors.

Such favorable trends have already prompted the Central Bank to plan putting back the renegotiations from August or September to November. Until that time, and also during the annual assembly of the IMF and the World Bank, which will be held in Washington at the end of September, Brazil intends to make felt the favorable changes in the political atmosphere of the relations between creditors and debtors.

It will evaluate the extension of the expected Mexican advance, and it hopes to have a better internal economic situation, mainly in the foreign trade area and in a downward trend in the inflation rate.

Only after analyzing the political picture will Brazil announce the projected shortages that are forecast for the balance of payment for 1985 and beyond which will help to define the need for new funds, which may be obtained by a new "jumbo loan" or, and this is even more remote, by a partial capitalization of interests.

According to Madeira Serrano, during the negotiation that will start from the minimum that is necessary for the adjustment of the external accounts, Brazil will examine the possibility of whether to ask for a smaller "jumbo loan" or to maintain the level of $6.5 million contracted this year. According to the second proposal, the country will raise even more the level of its gross trade reserves, already estimated at $11 billion by the end of this year -- within the traditional context of the balance of payments -- and it will also give the next government the opportunity to hasten the takeoff of economic activities.

REPORTAGE ON UPCOMING NATIONAL ELECTIONS

Maluf Optimistic

PY161530 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Social Democratic Party [PDS] presidential hopeful Deputy Paulo Maluf continues [word indistinct] here in Sao Paulo, stating that the victory at the Electoral College now is simply a matter of arithemetic. In this regard, he has talked with reporter Pedro Luis Ronco.

[Begin recording] [Ronco] During a press conference, Deputy Paulo Maluf stated that he is fully convinced that should he win at the PDS convention the other PDS candidate, Mario Andreazza, will give him his full support. Maluf also mentioned how to have both PDS ends meet, or, in other words, how to wear out the Liberal Front.

[Maluf] I feel that what the Liberal Front publicly proposes are ideas advocated by both PDS candidates, namely Paulo Maluf and Mario Andreazza. Therefore, I do not see a fundamental difference in ideas, in points of view. I call again upon some party fellow members to return home.

[Unidentified reporter] What is the strategy for winning at the Electoral College?

[Maluf] The strategy simply is a matter of arithmetic. As an engineer I ought to know arithmetic, and I do know it. I can guarantee that the next president of the Republic will be from the PDS. [end recording]

PDS Asks Figueiredo Advice

PY181350 Sao Paul Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Reporter from Brasilia by Carlos Rodrigues]

[Excerpt] Beginning 0600, Social Democratic Party [PDS] President Deputy Augusto Franco met with 19 of the 25 regional PDS presidents in order to take stock of the different (?stands) and to discuss a way out of the current crisis. At the end of the meeting, which lasted nearly 4 hours, the (?pro-Maluf) deputies tried to hold the Liberal Front responsible for the crisis, and issued a document which concluded that it is necessary to reach an understanding in order to prevent the election of an opposition leader as the next president of the Republic.

This document, which appeals to President Figueiredo's leadership to cope with the crisis, was forwarded to the chief of state late in the afternoon. However, the president reasserted that he does not want to be in charge of the succession process again.

Last night, Minister Leitao de Abreu, political coordinator of the government, reported that President Figueiredo will talk today with the current PDS leaders to prevent the PDS from going to the Electoral College with a candidate who could be defeated by the opposition.

Maluf Will Not Step Down

PY180355 Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 0200 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Excerpts] The pro-Maluf group has threatened to request the termination of the mandate of the 100 senators and deputies of the Social Democratic Party [PDS] Liberal Front if they decide to support an opposition candidate in the Electoral College. The threat was issued by (Benedito Ferreira), Goiaz regional PDS Executive Board president and by (Ernane Sapiro), another pro-Maluf group member who represents the regional PDS Executive Board of Paraiba.

The pro-Maluf group deputies who attended a meeting held by President Joao Figueiredo and PDS regional leaders this afternoon gave assurances that Maluf will not step down when he meets President Joao Figueiredo tomorrow.

PDS Governors Oppose Maluf

PY180337 Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 2150 GMT 17 Jul 84

[Excerpt] Brasilia -- Just as his Santa Catarina and Rio Grande do Sul colleagues did, Alagoas Governor Divaldo Suruagy now says that he will vote for the opposition candidate if the Social Democratic Party [PDS] elects Paulo Maluf as its presidential candidate. Suruagy, who made this statement at the conclusion of a meeting he held with president Joao Figueiredo this afternoon, added that all political sectors oppose Malufs candidacy. The governor said that the president expressed his desire that the two PDS presidential hopefuls step down.

Late this afternoon, President Figueriedo said that if Governor Tancredo Neves wins at the Electoral College, he will be unable to control opposition extremists. In a speech he addressed to regional PDS leaders, Figueiredo again admitted the possibility that Tancredo may be his successor.

President Figueiredo also told Alagoas Governor Divaldo Suruagy that Mario Andreazza is willing to step down in favor of the reunification of the PDS.

On the other hand, President Figueiredo has refused to resume the coordination of the succession process, although he will lend full support to the candidate elected by the PDS convention. This was the main conclusion of the meeting that the president and PDS regional leaders held this afternoon, PDS national President Augusto Franco reported.

PETROBRAS PRESIDENT REPORTEDLY TO LEAVE POST

PY181404 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Petrobras President Shigeaki Ueki yesterday took a trophy to President Figueiredo to mark the goal of a 500,000 barrel-per-day oil production. During the occasion it was revealed that Ueki is about to leave the state-owned enterprise. He will be ambassador to the EEC in Brussels. Imagine the struggle behind the scenes for the vacant position.

RIGHTIST GROUPS TO BE INVITED TO JOIN GOVERNMENT

WA191617 Rome IPS in English 17 Jul 84

[By Luis Alberto Jara]

[Text] Santiago, July 17 (IPS) -- Chile's military regime is set to invite far-right political parties into government, according to right-wing political figures here. The conservative daily EL MERCURIO said July 15 that many political groups in Chile are extremely worried over that possibility, fearing that with support from the political far-right, the military government would take a harder line.

When the Armed Forces overthrew socialist President Salvador Allende in 1973, they had support from the now defunct extreme right Fatherland and Freedom Party, a paramilitary organization.

An unidentified leader of the National Movement Action (MAN) told EL MERCURIO that if his party is invited to joint the government, "we will stand decidedly on the economic and political right," against the "foolish" Christian Democratic center and the "Marxists."

Directors of the National Party (PN), the largest right-wing party, which recently withdrew support from the military government, told foreign reporters here that top government officials are considering incorporating the MAN, a move they termed dangerous.

The PN and two other parties, the Radical Democracy and the National Democratic Party (PADENA), recently pulled out of a group of eight progovernment political parties known as the Group of Eight. Their departure left Chilean President Gen. Augusto Pinochet with "minimal" civilian support for his regime, according to PN leader Fernando Ochagavia.

The three parties that withdrew from the Eight now feel that the military government has lost all capacity to rule and that the current political and social problems are polarizing Chilean society. They left the Eight when that progovernment party alliance rejected a proposal for a civic front for democracy, a coalition of all political groups to pressure for an end to military rule, suggested by moderate opposition parties.

After losing conservative support, Gen. Pinochet is reportedly studying inviting the far-right into his government, which he says will stay in office until 1989. Most of the opposition parties are demanding that Pinochet move very soon to hand the government over to an elected administration. Pinochet argues that the Constitution approved in 1980 gives him a mandate until 1989. But the opposition does not recognize the Constitution since it was ratified in a plebiscite held under restricted political conditions.

Political leaders across the political spectrum predicted that incorporation of the far-right into the military government would bode ill for civic rights in Chile. A Communist leader told EL MERCURIO that "the regime will become even more repressive," a rightist political leader predicted "a hard hand and repression," and a Christian Democrat commented that "those guys (the far-rightists) are fanatics." The word "nazi" mentioned by many of the political leaders in reference to the rightist "nationalist" sector, according to EL MERCURIO.

One rightist said, however, he gets "chills" when recalling the former Fatherland and Freedom Party -- "those uniformed boys marching militarily."

One unidentified MAN representative told EL MERCURIO that "they're afraid of us. The economic right disqualifies us because it fears for its interests, and the oligarchic right fears that the project it has built in the last 10 years will crumble."

"The Christian Democratic center also fears us because they are some undefined foolish tools which are always willing to be used as a bridge for the Marxists to walk over," the MAN leader said. The representative pledged that the MAN, if allowed into government, will confront the Communist Party head on, and with arms if necessary, according to EL MERCURIO.

Since the dissolution of the Chilean Nazi Party, founded in the 1930's, the MAN has led the "Nationalist" sector, which also includes the Nationalist Union of Chile (UNACH) and other smaller groups.

MAN leaders have reportedly said that incorporating them into the government is Pinochet's only alternative since the Eight is now considerably weaker.

CARABINEROS REPRESS DEMONSTRATION HONORING POET

PY130134 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0054 GMT 13 Jul 84

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 12 Jul (EFE) -- The Carabineros forces today repressed a street demonstration held here to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the birth of Nobel Prize for Literature laureate Pablo Neruda. The incident took place at Independence Plaza, where 30 university students carrying placards had gathered.

The Carabineros arrived as the students started to read poems. They immediately dispersed the students and abruptly ended the ceremony in honor of Neruda.

Meanwhile, hundreds of Chileans put flowers on Neruda's grave at the general cemetery.

BOMB ATTACKS IN SANTIAGO, RANCAGUA, VALPARAISO

PY131356 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0351 GMT 13 Jul 84

[Text] Santiago, 12 Jul (EFE) -- Chilean radio stations tonight reported that there were a number of bomb explosions tonight in some communities of the Santiago metropolitan area and in other big cities throughout the country.

There were bomb explosions in Valparaiso, located 120 km west of Santiago, and in Rancagua, located 100 km south of Santiago.

According to the radio stations, there were no victims, and the main targets in Rancagua were financial institutions.

BRIEFS

GEOGRAPHIC INSTITUTES DIRECTORS MEETING -- Santiago, 8 Jul (EFE) -- Colonel Mario Ugarte, general coordinator of the meeting, today announced during a press conference that the fifth meeting of geographic institute directors will be held in SAntiago 9-14 July. The meeting is organized by the Chilean Military Geographic Institute and will be attended by representatives of 9 other countries, namely: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Venezuela, and, as special guests, the National Service and the Army Geographic Service of Spain. [Excerpt] [Madrid EFE in Spanish 1421 GMT 8 Jul 84 PY]

EXTRADITION TREATY WITH U.S. MAY BE REVISED

PA181757 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 16 Jul 84 pp 1 A, 8 A

[By Cesar Valencia]

[Text] In Cartagena, Colombia and the United States will try to renegotiate the extradition treaty that was signed by the two countries in 1979 and was incorporated into Colombian legislation in 1980, after an initial dialogue held in Washington by spokesmen for the Betancur regime.

Attorneys Carlos Holguin Holguin and Bernardo Gaitan Mahecha have put out the first "feelers" with U.S. State Department and Justice Department officials to obtain a statement of the U.S. Government's position regarding Colombia's proposal that the bilateral agreement be revised.

The initial bilateral conversations involve an effort to agree on methods of revising the treaty and on its future renegotiation, which could take place in Cartagena on a date that has not yet been decided upon by the two governments. Colombian Government spokesmen and U.S. officials will meet in Cartagena with everything necessary to achieve an agreement that will not only allow the revision of the treaty but its eventual renegotiation.

It is expected that Colombia will seek not only a considerable reduction in the number of crimes punishable by extradition, but also a reform of the procedures stipulated by the treaty for the official processing of requests for the extradition of nationls for trial in the United States.

EL TIEMPO has been informed that Foreign Minister Augusto Ramirez Ocampo and Justice Minister Enrique Parejo Gonzales held an initial meeting with the two Colombian Government spokesmen, Holguin Holguin and Gaitan Mahecha, to learn about the U.S. position on Colombian's effort to revise and renegotiate the treaty.

It has been reported that the two countries' governments are willing not only to pursue the revision of the treaty but to undertake its eventual renegotiation, though the final decision is subject to the meeting that will be held in Cartagena.

"The conversations," it was said, "were carried out in a cordial atmosphere, and it was demonstrated that there is not only the willingness but the desire to undertake the revision of the treaty."

It was explained, moreover, that it is not true that Colombia spoke in Washington only about its concerns over the Treaty of Mutual Legal Assistance, which complements the extradition treaty, and which was not approved by the Colombian Congress during the last regular legislature because of criticism from some political sectors. It was affirmed that Colombia spoke not only about revising the Treaty of Mutual Legal Assistance, but turned the conversation to the need to revise the extradition treaty, making various observations about it and objecting to the wide range of crimes to which it applies.

This explanation was offered in response to a statement by Lewis Tambs, U.S. Ambassador to Colombia, who recently said that Colombia spoke only about modifying the Treaty of Mutual Legal Assistance.

So far, Colombia has not applied the treaty, despite the U.S. requests for extradition. The petition to extradite Carlos Lehder Rivas was accepted, but Lehder fled and his whereabouts are unknown.

The government has received documents seeking extradition of 10 more Colombians in recent weeks, but there has not been any executive resolution, and only a few petitions have been sent to the Court of Appeals at the Supreme Court, which must issue a legal judgment.

ADO WILL NOT SIGN TRUCE WITH GOVERNMENT

PA181554 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Bogota -- Workers Self-Defense [ADO], a revolutionary and political-military organization, has announced that it will not sign a truce with the government or with any mediating groups. The decision was announced in a latter sent to Peace Commission President John Agudelo Rios. ADO, which has been holding talks with the Peace Commission since 8 March 1984, held a meeting on 10 May to establish its position on the dialogue and the truce. ADO clearly told the president then that it will not sign an agreement until a national dialogue is held, with the participation of popular organizations. The message to Agudelo Rios indicates that ADO will not join in the truce because the president disregarded its proposals and did not send ADO a reply.

Meanwhile, a group of people who are trying to supplant the organization are about to sign an alleged peace agreement with the Peace Commission.

M-19 GROUP REPORTEDLY ATTACKS OFFICE IN CALI

PA181801 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Cali -- A group of alleged 19 April Movement [M-19] members have attacked the Colfamiliar [presumably Instituto Colombiano de Bienestar Familiar] offices in Cali. In a clash with the Colfamiliar guards, the group killed one guard and seriously wounded another.

Valle Department police told this station that eight individuals in a white Renault-18 car, with license plate No BJ5173, crashed the gate and opened fire on Javier Gordillo, who died, and on Julio Manuel Mendoza, who is now in critical condition. The rebels seized two rifles and uniforms, and then fled. Intelligence organizations have found no clues as to the whereabouts of the vehicles and its occupants who, according to investigators, are members of an M-19 group.

BRIEFS

FRENCH AMBASSADOR ARRIVES -- New French Ambassador to Colombia Pierre de Boisdeffre has arrived in Colombia. [Summary] [Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 13 Jul 84 p 4 PA]

MILITARY APPOINTMENTS -- Colonel Jesus Maria Vergara has been appointed Assistant Director of the Cadet Military School. His predecessor, Colonel Gentil Almario Viera, was transferred to the Inter-American Defense College in Washington. The Army also announced that the following officers have been named chiefs of staff: Col Guillermo Alfonso Montoya Parra, with the multinational forces in Sinai; Col Jaime Ruiz Barrera, in Cali's 13th Brigade; Col Blas Romulo Basto Rincon, in the Army's 2d Division; Col German Aragon Bautista, in the 9th Brigade; Col Julio Randon Martin, in the 5th Brigade; Col Raul Rojas Cubillos, in the 14th Brigade; Col Eliseo Triana Melo, in the 6th Brigade; Col Miguel Torres Escamilla, in the 1st Brigade; Col Jaime Avila Vasquez, in the 8th Brigade; and Col Hector Munoz Sanabria [assignment not given]. Col Manuel Martinez Pachon will be inspector general of the Armed Forces. Col Humberto Gonzalez Rozo is the new chief of the Army's 3d Department; Col Hernan Torres Barrera is chief of the Army's 5th Department; and Col Manuel San Miguel Buenaventura is the new chief of the 12th operational command in Florencia. [Summary] [Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 7 Jul 84 p 8 A PA]

EXILED WORKERS GROUP ISSUES DECLARATION

PY182140 Asuncion EL PUEBLO in Spanish 12 Jul 84 p 6

[Paraguayan Confederation of Workers, CPT, in xile "declaration"; date, place not given]

[Excerpts] Fellow countrymen, comrade workers of the country under Alfredo Stroessner's regime:

We ratify our undeniable determination and will to fight the tyranny until it falls and we, therefore, ratify the following:

1. To demand a just salary.

2. To lift the state of siege and to declare a general amnesty.

3. To legalize the union movement and to condemn the submissive attitude toward the dictatorship, and to repudiate the submissiveness of certain false apostles of the Paraguayan union movement.

4. To demand the immediate repeal of repressive "laws" Nos 209 and 294, which the tyranny enforces to diminish, subjugate, jail, kill, and humiliate the people.

5. To demand the prompt release of all union, social, and professional leaders, political prisoners, peasant and religious leaders, democratic military officers, and intellectuals.

6. To repudiate the economic policy (monetarist and anti-Paraguayan) that is starving the Paraguayan people.

7. To defend the sacred human rights to life, work, freedom, and security.

8. To denounce the systematic violation of international treaties Nos 26, 87, 110, and 151 on just salaries, union freedoms, the right to collective negotiations, and the right of peasants and workers of the public sector to form unions and to demand that the tyranny and business sectors uphold them.

9. To demand the full maintenance of those ethical values and democratic principles proclaimed by the universal declaration of human rights which are consecrated in the national Constitution and international agreements that guide the repations of citizens in a civilized society.

10. To respect the right of habeas corpus and the independence of the branches of government.

11. To censure the "senators and deputies," councilmen, some officials, and diplomats for their complicity with the dictatorship and for ignoring their own responsibilities and justifying all sorts of harassment against the dignity of human beings and the rights of the people.

12. To denounce the administrative corruption, lies, and smuggling -- particularly drug trafficking -- that prevails as a form of violence that has been institutionalized by the regime and that has serious consequences at all social levels.

13. To denounce the false nationalism that is propagated by the regime to demand an urgent renewal and change within the public administration, the police, the Armed Forces, and the diplomatic and consular services, which are filled with abject and dishonest officials who for a long time have been at the service of the regime and thus are impeding a healthy and necessary promotions system.

14. To make a respectful and friendly call on the Paraguayan church to encourage efforts to achieve the normalization and reconciliation of the Paraguayan family as an institution on the basis of respect for human rights and the ethical principles that guide the lives of nations.

15. To repudiate the continuation of the dictatorship that the Stroessner regime has imposed on Paraguay for the past 30 years in open violation of all democratic norms and in violation of the civic-political and constitutional dignity of the Paraguayan people.

16. To reassert the unitary and democratic position of the true CPT, which was established in 1951 as a pluralist union organization to strengthen and develop its own rank and file through unions and professional federations, free from both foreign and domestic ties to parties or to banners that go against the true interests of workers and union institutions.

CHILEAN PHOTOGRAPHER ARRESTED FOR 'DESERTING' CNI

PY172100 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1717 GMT 17 Jul 84

[Text] Chilean photographer Alejandro Mella La Torre has been arrested in Paraguay on charges of deserting the Chilean intelligence service. This statement was made by La Torre's lawyer Heriberto Alegre, who defends him under the sponsorship of the Committee of Churches, in Asuncion. Alegre explained that La Torre was not arrested on charges of allegedly participating in the assassination of Nicaraguan dictator Anastasio Somoza. The lawyer said that in his opinion Mella was arrested for political reasons because Mella had deserted the Chilean intelligence service. This action, he went on, is equivalent to deserting the Mafia. Alegre reiterated that, contrary to what had been claimed, his client was not at the place where Somoza was assassinated, because he was at the Chilean consulate when the action occurred.

Alegre has now requested that the courts allow Mella La Torre to undergo a medical checkup on the grounds that the Chilean has psychiatric problems. The lawyer asked the well-known Paraguayan professional Isaac Cegla to examine his client.

The Paraguayan Government has said that the Chilean was arrested on charges of involvement in the assassination of the former Nicaraguan dictator. Mella La Torre was accused of taking pictures of the ambush in which a bazooka was used, and in which Somoza died. According to the Paraguayan authorities, Mella La Torre was supposed to deliver the pictures to a specific place.

OIL AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH USSR IN MOSCOW

PY181358 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2343 GMT 17 Jul 84

[Text] Moscow, 17 Jul (EFE) -- In Moscow today, the USSR and Uruguay signed an agreement whereby the USSR will provide to Uruguay 5,000 barrels of oil daily during 6-month periods [sentence as received]. The agreement was proposed by the Uruguayan Government and it implies a resumption of Soviet oil exports to Uruguay after Moscow's withdrawal from the international oil market 20 years ago. The agreement was signed by Heber Pampillo, president of the National Administration of Fuels, Alcohol, and Portland Cement, and by Vladimir Morozov, general director of the Soviet Soyuznefteeksport Oil Importing-Exporting Company. The Uruguayan delegation arrived in Moscow on Monday and it will stay until Saturday. The agreement is considered as "extremely important" for Motevideo's commercial opening toward Moscow.

ARMED FORCES DECIDE TO LIFT BAN ON BROAD FRONT

Sanguinetti Comments

PY181200 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0000 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Excerpt] The Armed Forces have announced their decision to life the ban on the Broad Front, a coalition which will now function under the Christian Democratic Party [PDC]. As announced by Carve earlier, at a meeting held at the Joint Chiefs of Staff [Esmaco] building, the commanders in chief announced their disposition to lift the ban on the Broad Front as a party in accordance with the Constitution. This will allow for the immediate functioning of the Socialist Party and the list of 99. The military commanders announced, however, that the ban on the Communist Party, the 26 March Group, and the Party for the People's Victory will not be lifted.

At the end of a 2-hour meeting held at the Esmaco building, Colorado Party leader Julio Maria Sanguinetti said:

[Begin recording] [Sanguinetti] We have basically considered the answers and comments made by the commanders in chief on the five points the political parties proposed for discussions during the prenegotiation stage. In this regard, we were told that Institutional Acts No 7 and 14, as is publicly known, were already repealed. Regarding the Broad Front, we were told that given the pending action, that is, the lifting of the ban on the PDC as a permanent umbrella organization under which other parties could operate, the Armed Forces have reviewed their position and indicated that this idea could be acceptable.

On the third point, regarding the situation of political prisoners, we were told that they have contacted military court officials and that they were told that those prisoners who have already served half of their sentences could be released soon.

Regarding freedom of the press, it was stated that a draft law recently proposed is under study and that decisions will depend on the discussion being conducted by the committee led by Dr (Valdes Pons).

Concerning the 2 August decree, we were told that it is not being applied because it is considered to be closely connected to the possible developments of this situation.

The commanders in chief have also expressed their concern about destabilization (?attempts) which they believe cannot contribute to creating the desired atmosphere.

One point which remained undecided is the implementation of the lifting of the ban on the PDC. I say the PDC because this will be the technical mechanism for the operation of what we know politically as the Broad Front. Thus another meeting will be held on Monday at 1000 to continue these talks.

[Unidentified reporter] Could it be said that negotiations are fully under way?

[Sanguinetti] No, sir. I have made it quite clear that this is not the case. I want to state that we are in the prenegotiation stage since we have discussed the five points I mentioned earlier.

[Reporter] How many delegations attended this meeting?

[Sanguinetti] Members of the Multiparty Group and a delegation of the new authorized party, the Labor Party. [end recording]

Socialist Leader on Meeting

PY181853 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0930 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Upon commenting on the talks held at the Joint Chief of Staff [Esmaco] building, Socialist Party leader Jose Pedro Cardozo said that a lot was gained since the last meeting with the Armed Forces because significant steps have been announced.

[Begin Cardozo recording] I would like to emphasize what the Broad Front delegation already proposed, at the last meeting. They focused their interest on two issues: first, the release of a large group of political prisoners, and second, the granting of legal status to the Broad Front. We received a reply to both issues, and although they are not 100 percent totally satisfactory, we consider them to be positive, because [journalist tries to interrupt] -- let me finish speaking -- because ... as Dr Sanguinetti has already said, regarding the prisoners, there is a project to release those who have served half of their sentences. As for the other issue, they have told us about their decision to legalize the Socialist Party and the Christian Democratic Party as the permanent labels of the Broad Front. So, I want to remark...

[Unidentified reporter] Dr Cardozo, I'll ask you again the same thing I asked you at the last meeting: Were the issues on Wilson Ferreira's imprisonment and General Seregni's situation discussed?

[Cardozo] No, no, no, we just discussed the prenegotiation issues, the preliminary matters. There will be a break until next Monday, 23 July, to see if we can finish this stage because, of course, this step is very clear. We now have to report to our respective parties on the outcome of today's session, so that they can make the final decision.

[Reporter] Dr Cardozo, must the conditions proposed by the political parties be totally accepted in order to begin negotiations?

[Cardozo] Well, this is not a matter of quantity. No. The parties will exmaine the contents, the substance, the scope of the measures. All the issues do not have the same importance to us, I said so already.

[Reporter] Was there any progress in the negotiations from the last meeting to this one?

[Cardozo] Naturally there has been progress.

[Reporter] Was there a receptivity similar to the one the last time?

[Cardozo] Well, the receptivity is shown by their positive reply to some of the demands made by the political parties.

[Reporter] I ask you to define or to give your opinion on the presense of the Labor Party at today's meeting, which was somewhat surprising.

[Cardozo] No, I do not thing there is any interest in reporting my opinion, my position on this matter. [end recording]

ARMY COMMANDER ON TALKS WITH POLITICAL PARTIES

PY190232 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0000 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Excerpt] Army Commander in Chief Lieutenant General Hugo Medina has said that the country's current political situation is difficult, but that there are chances it will improve and a solution will be achieved.

Commander Medina made lengthy comments on the contacts with the political parties willing to hold a dialogue, the imminent measures that the government will approve, and the institutional process the country is experiencing. He termed as positive the last meeting the Armed Forces commanders held with representatives of the Colorado Party, the Civic Union Party, the Broad Front, and the Labour Party. He said that every subject brought up during the meeting was discussed frankly. The Army commander in chief referred to the recent meeting with political leaders by stating:

[Begin recording] [Medina] I would say it was a positive meeting, because we discussed all the subjects brought up properly and in a completely frank manner.

[Unidentified reporter] How positive?

[Medina] It was positive because we gave our answers and made our proposals; we stated our true position and listened to what the political parties had to say to our proposal.

[Reporter] Commander, regarding the position of the media, could you tell us when the 2 August decree will be repealed, if the government is thinking of doing such a thing?

[Medina] The proposal the Commission for the Defense of the Media -- headed by (Valdes Costa) -- made regarding the 2 August decree and the freedom of press is currently being analyzed. A special commission is studying the proposal submitted to the president, and the results of these studies will determine the data on which some decree in this regard be issued.

[Reporter] Commander, what other measures will the government and the Armed Forces take to gradually create the necessary atmosphere for a return to democracy What will be the next measure to be taken?

[Medina] The government and the Armed Forces have taken innumerable measures to create the atmosphere you have just mentioned. Now then, the fact that a person who is not authorized -- because of his political situation as a proscribed person or because of his legal status before the military court -- to make statements, or to carry out political activities is able to do so with government permission is a fact that, in itself, creates the necessary atmosphere. The government, by repealing Institutional Acts No 7 and 14 has also made an important contribution to the request for the creation of this climate. Moreover, the fact that it has allowed the holding of demonstrations, rallies, and political activities, which take place almost every day in our country, also represents a contribution to the political relaxation.

[Reporter] Commander Medina: Many people have stated that there will be no democracy in this country if the National Party does not participate. What do you have to say about that?

[Medina] Well, this is up to the National Party. It's the only one responsible for its attitude; we are not.

[Reporter] Do you think that the normalization of the democratic process will be affected if this party does not take part in the elections to be held in November?

[Medina] The ideal thing would be for it to take part in the elections, but the scheduled steps will be taken even if it does not do so.

[Reporter] How would you describe the political situation which Wilson Ferreira Aldunate's presence has prompted?

[Medina] Undoubtedly, the pressure exerted by the presence of Ferreira Aldunate has an impact on the political field. However, we are not concerned about this.

[Reporter] It has been stated that the Armed Forces will not negotiate Wilson Ferreira's release. Will this stance be maintained, or could the Armed Forces negotiate his release with the National Party?

[Medina] I think I have already said that the military court's decisions are made in a completely independent manner.

AIR FORCE COMMANDER ON NEW LAWS, POLITICAL POWER

PY190120 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0000 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Excerpts] Uruguayan Air Force Commander Lieutenant General Manuel Buadas has said that we must be aware that the current times we are experiencing demand the implementation of some new laws in the current legal system, but that it is not a matter of modifying or expanding the legal system with abusive or unnecessarily capricious measures, but rather a matter of improving it and adjusting it to reality.

The Air Force commander also stated that the Armed Forces have no desire to co-govern nor to rule over the political power.

GOVERNMENT REJECTS ESSEQUIBO MINING PROJECT

PA140321 Paris AFP in Spanish 0142 GMT 14 Jul 84

[Text] Caracas, 13 Jul (AFP) -- Venezuela will not recognize any foreign investment in Essequibo, the territory it is claiming from Guyana, Foreign Minister Isidro Morales Paul said today in relation to a gold mine project by Yugoslavia in that territory.

Venezuela, which is trying to improve its relations with Guyana, is claiming from that country 154,000 square kilometers of Essequibo. The problem is in the hands of the UN secretary general, who must find a peaceful solution to it.

According to reports from Georgetown, Guyana's capital, experts from Yugoslavia will be arriving in a couple of weeks to work on a gold mind exploiting project in the Essequibo, agreement for which was signed in November. A Guyanese source said last Thursday that the drilling equipment for tests by the Yugoslavian experts in the search for gold in the Upper Konawaruk zone are already in the country.

Venezuela has objected to development plans in the Essequibo such as the Mazaruni hydroelectric project, because, it says, it affects its rights established by the 1966 Geneva agreement.

OIL, AID TO COSTA RICA, JAMAICA SUSPENDED

WA171430 Rome IPS in English 17 Jul 84

[Text] Caracas, July 17 (IPS) -- Venezuela has decided to suspend oil shipments to Costa Rica and freeze aid to Jamaica because of payment arrears, Venezuelan dailies reported today.

Spokespersons for the Venezuelan state oil holding company (PDVSA) said that the firm has embargoed a 200,000 barrel oil shipment to Costa Rica until the Costa Rican Oil Refinery (RECOPE) meets an overdue payment of $5 million.

The Venezuelan Investment Fund (FIV), meanwhile, has suspended aid to Jamaica until the Caribbean nation pays interest charges on long-term loans granted by Caracas.

Costa Rica and Jamaica are beneficiaries of the San Jose accord, under which Mexico and Venezuela supply oil at preferential terms to 10 Central American and Caribbean countries. The two supplier countries ship 160,000 barrels per day (bpd) to the beneficiaries at a 20 percent discount, with that portion of the payment deposited in the receiving nations' central banks as medium- and long-term loans at low interest rates.

Under the San Jose accord, Costa Rica has a daily quota of 7,500 bpd and Jamaica receives 16,000 bpd.

In 1982, the government of Venezuelan President Lius Herrera Campins suspended oil shipments to Nicaragua because of arrears totalling about $200 million. New President Jaime Lusinchi has maintained that suspension.

Costa Rica also has problems with the Mexican state oil company (PEMEX), over an unpaid oil bill of $13 million for shipments made in May and June. Mexico and Venezuela each sell $1.1 billion of oil and aid of $220 million annually to the San Jose beneficiaries. The loans are granted at five-year terms and an eight percent interest rate, and must be used for national development programs, with priority on energy projects.

The San Jose accord, signed in 1980, is due for renewal by Mexico and Venezuela on Aug. 3 this year, and the two nations are expected to modify the terms, probably raising interest rates. FIV officials said last week that the interest charges under the San Jose accord should be closer to international rates. The U.S. prime interest rate is now 13 percent, after increases this year of two percentage points.

On July 14, FIV announced that half of Venezuela's loans would be delivered in dollars and the remainder in bolivares, the Venezuelan currency, to stimulate purchases of Venezuelan goods and services by the recipient countries.

In August, Mexico and Venezuela will study requests by Belize, Haiti and Suriname for inclusion in the regional oil agreement.

LUSINCHI ON CONTACTS TO RENEW TALKS WITH COLOMBIA

PA181849 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1703 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Caracas, 18 Jul (LATIN-REUTER) -- Venezuelan President Jaime Lusinchi today said there have actually been no contacts with Colombia to renew the negotiation of the differences between the two countries, but, he added, neither are there any problems.

"There are no problems, there are no talks; there is the best disposition on our part, and, I must admit, on the part of the Colombian Government to find suitable solutions," he told reporters.

Last week Colombian President Belisario Betancur said in an interview published here that he was fully confident that the dispute will be settled during his constitutional term.

The formal negotiations on the demarcation of the Gulf of Venezuela have been frozen for the past 3 years, following the decision of the administration of Luis Herrera Campins to turn down a draft proposal.

According to the president of the Foreign Relations Advisory Committee (CARE), a political entity designed to guide the government's foreign policy, the contacts must be made through direct negotiations.

"In the interest of the good relations that exists between Venezuela and Colombia, this matter must be handled with utmost care, always on the basis of understanding between the two parties," Marcos Falcon Briceno said. However, he could not say when the two governments would be ready to start the talks.

JAMAICAN BANK OFFICIAL ARRIVES FOR AID TALKS

FL182317 Bridgetown CANA in English 2229 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Caracas, July 18, CANA-REUTER -- The governor of Jamaica's Central Bank Horace Barber arrived here today for talks with Venezuelan officials on economic cooperation.

Barber told reporters he planned to meet Central Bank President Benito Raul Losada and the head of the Venezuelan Investment Fund (FIV) Carlos Rafael Silva with a view to renegotiating Jamaica's debts to Venezuela and identifying new investment potential on the island. The debts include aid provided under a joint oil supply scheme with Mexico and other financial assistance through the FIV.

GUATEMALAN FOREIGN MINISTER MAKES 2-DAY VISIT

FL182050 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1702 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Mexico City, 18 Jul (NOTIMEX) -- The Guatemalan Government will certainly continue to support the Contadora Group's negotiations in the struggle to pacify the Central American region, that country's Foreign Minister Fernando Andrade Diaz Duran has asserted here.

During his 2-day visit to this capital, the relations between Mexico and Guatemala were examined, and there was agreement on the priority assigned to the dynamic and beneficial development of their economoic relations. The Guatemalan foreign minister acknowledged there is a need for achieving balanced trade relations, which is why an effort is being made to improve the rules governing them. Likewise, the possibility for negotiating an agreement on the interconnection of the two countries' electric grids was discussed, as well as a program for the joint use of shared natural resources, principally in water resources. The need for diversifying cultural, artistic, and educational exchanges was also discussed, as were joint tourist programs which could be applied to the Maya area.

The press attache of the Guatemalan Embassy in Mexico, Julio Drago, said the governments of the two nations are studying the possibility of establishing a consultation mechanism that would facilitate the individual and voluntary return to their fatherland of those refugess who have settled in the southeast part of the country. Mexico's Foreign Secretariat has not commented in this connection.

DELEGATION OF DEPUTIES LEAVES FOR MANAGUA

FL180240 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2345 GMT 17 Jul 84

[Text] Mexico City, 17 Jul (NOTIMEX) -- At midday today a delegation from Mexico's Chamber of Deputies left for Managua to particpate in the events commemorating the fifth anniversary of Nicaragua's revolution.

Deputy Mario Vargas Saldana heads the delegation and bears greetings from the Chamber of Deputies' Grand Committee, which Humberto Lugo Gil presides. Accompanying Vargas Saldana are Deputies Sara Villalpando and Victor Manuel Torres Ramirez. The delegation will participate in the festivities for three days and will return to Mexico City on Friday.

MEXICO-CHINA TRADE COMMISSION MEETING OPENS

FL181556 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1718 GMT 17 Jul 84

[Excerpt] Mexico City, 17 Jul (NOTIMEX) -- Jorge Eduardo Navarrete, deputy secretary of foreign relations, has said that the peoples of Mexico and People's Republic of China provide an example of solidarity and strength in the face of the changing times experienced by both societies. Their contributions to changing the unfair international economic order are also exemplary. Navarrete made this statement during the opening session of the sixth meeting of the Mixed Economic and Trade Cooperation Commission between Mexico and the People's Republic of China. Navarrete is heading the Mexican team. Jia Shi, Chinese deputy foreign minister for economics and trade, is leading the visiting delegation. Navarrete gave a description of Mexican economic policy, which is governed by the economic reorganization program and the national development plan, which are aimed at restoring the necessary balance to the production structure and at renewing growth opportunities.

EEC TO FINANCE REGIONAL TRADE THROUGH FUND

PA181912 San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 12 Jul 84 p 2

[Text] Planning Minister Manuel Villasuso has said that the EEC will finance regional trade to help nations that have debts with Costa Rica cancel these debts through a fund that will be handled by a Central American organization. The financing of inter-Central American trade will be accomplished with the signing of an agreement with the CACM similar to the agreement the EEC has with Andean Pact countries. Central American countries owe Costa Rica $227 million. Villasuso reported that President Monge discussed this topic with officials of all of the [European] countries he visited. In addition, the plan will facilitate trade between the two common markets, thus permitting a greater EEC access to the area within a multilateral framework.

Regarding bilateral matters, Villasuso said that talks were held on a $19-million rural development project that the EEC is carrying out in Orotina, Turrubares, Acosta, San Mateo, and other cantons. This program is aimed at incorporating a large number of peasants into the productive process.

COSTA RICA

PA181427 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Costa Rican Foreign Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez has declared that the Contadora document must be used by the five Central American governments to enter a new stage of negotiations that is more precise and thorough. He noted that, in this second round of talks,they could discuss and approve those aspects that have not yet been approved by consensus and that are of vital importance in resolving the Central American crisis. In this regard, the Costa Rican Government wants to see the political aspects that are contained in the document expanded, because the political statements therein are very general, lack strength, and do not include everything that was discussed at the meetings in Panama.

In a note sent to Panamanian Foreign Minister Oyden Ortega yesterday afternoon, the foreign minister said that Costa Rica has no problem in complying with the commitments and recommendations contained in the Contadora document. He noted that the country's administrative and institutional system, as well as its foreign policy, adhere to these commitments and recommendations to a very high degree. The note clearly stated that if any specific commitment was left out of the document by accident, the government would gladly take the necessary measures to ensure full compliance, in accordance with the obligation in assumed when it accepted the document.

The Costa Rican Government would also be willing to agree to the use of this document as a basis for discussion and negotiation of a general peace and cooperation treaty for the Region's countries.

In the note, which was sent as a response to the Contadora Group, it is specified that the document was drafted as a series of commitments and recommendations, and that some of its clauses can be interpreted in different ways. According to the note, some material of great importance in the Contadora document is presented in the form of recommendations, and thus does not appear to be binding. In addition, in some cases the document's wording is vague, rendering its implementation difficult.

The document is also incomplete in terms of some political aspects, rendering it insufficient and ineffective in this area, Gutierrez declared. The foreign minister mentioned that Costa Rica proposed arms limitation and the need to establish a limit on war supplies, but the document made no mention of this. Another aspect involves refugees, to which the document made only a very brief reference. Costa Rica also stressed that there is no principal Central American authority to coordinate the complex peace structure in any new system of interrelationships among the region's countries.

EL SALVADOR

PARTICIPATION IN NICARAGUAN ANNIVERSARY CANCELED

PA181544 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0819 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] San Salvador, 18 Jul (LATIN-REUTER) -- Last night, El Salvador canceled its earlier decision to send a diplomatic delegation to Managua to participate in this week's festivities commemorating the fifth anniversary of the Nicarguan revolution, because of the promise made by a Nicaraguan leader of continued support to the Salvadoran rebels. Salvadoran President Jose Napoleon Duarte also asked the relevant authorities to initiate legal action at the International Court of Justice in the Hague because of Nicaragua's "confessed intervention" in El Salvador's internal affairs. The announcement of the cancellation of the trip and of the request for legal action was made at a press conference by Vice President Rodolfo Castillo Claramount after he received a telegram yesterday afternoon from Duarte, who is currently visiting the FRG. According to the telegram, Duarte canceled the delegation's trip after learning that Nicaraguan leader Daniel Ortega told AFP this week that he would meet with Duarte to discuss regional problems, but that Nicaragua would still continue to support the Salvadoran guerrillas. Castillo Claramount and Presidency Minister Julio Rey Prendes said that the decision to cancel the mission was made only yesterday, because Duarte had just learned of Ortega's alleged statement.

In his telegram, Duarte said that the statement supposedly made by Ortega "reveals an absurd lack of respect for the people and Government of El Salvador and clearly reflects his interventionist attitude toward El Salvador's internal affairs." El Salvador and its U.S. supporters have long accused. Nicaragua of supplying weapons and training to the Salvadoran FMLN guerrillas, but up to now they have lacked convincing proof.

The cancellation of the trip followed a number of protests voiced yesterday by powerful rightist groups that opposed the dispatch of representatives to the Nicaraguan anniversary celebration on the basis of claims that the Sandinist leaders are directing the Salvadoran rebels' military operations. Castillo Claramount denied that the decision to cancel the mission was the result of the Salvadoran right wing's protests.

ARENA DEPUTY SHOT BY UNIDENTIFIED ASSAILANTS

PA182328 Paris AFP in Spanish 2245 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Excerpt] San Salvador, 18 Jul (AFP) -- A deputy from the right-wing Nationalist Republican Alliance (ARENA) was shot this afternoon by unknown persons. His condition is "delicate," official sources have reported. Jesus Alberto Villacorta, 72, was in a restaurant in the western part of the capital when four armed youths broke in and shot at at him. He was hit by four bullets, two of them in the chest, it was reported. Villacorta was taken immediately to a private clinic, which reported a "reserved prognosis," because of the seriousness of the injuries.

COPREFA REPORTS CLASHES IN LA PAZ, SAN MIGUEL

PA182220 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Armed Forces Press Committee, Coprefa, Communique; date not given]

[Text] Yesterday a patrol of the Armed Forces Engineer's Training Center, which is headquartered in Zacatecoluca, launched a surprise attack on a terrorist squad in the La Pita Canton, jurisdiction of Zacatecoluca in La Paz Department. During the clash, 3 leftists were killed and 12 wounded. The Army reported no casualties. Meanwhile, soldiers of the 3rd Antiterrorist Battalion of the 6th Infantry Brigade of Usulutan clashed with extremists in the vicinty of the Jocote Dulce Canton and hamlet, jurisdiction of Chinameca in San Miguel, resulting in an unspecified number of deaths and injuries among the terrorists. One soldier was killed and two were slightly involved in this action.

MISSING PERSONS RELATIVES COMMITTEE MAKES DEMANDS

PA190207 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 17 Jul 84 p 23

[Office of the General Secretary of the Executive Council of the National Association of Salvadoran Teachers advertisement; date not given]

[Text] "We want the government to take a serious look at the fact that reforms will be useless if they are stained with so much blood." (Msgr Romero).

The Central American Association of Relatives of Prisoners-Missing Persons, [Asociacion Centroamericana de Familiares de Detenidos-Desaparecidos -- Acafade] founded in May 1982 with headquarters in San Jose, Costa Rica, is guiding its efforts in defense of human rights basically toward the right to life and liberty of the prisoners-missing persons of our Central American region, which is expressed in three demands.

1. That the prisoners-missing persons be returned alive.

2. That forced disappearances of persons be eradicated because this is a crime against humanity.

3. That those responsible for such behavior be punished.

As relatives of the prisoners-missing persons, we have experienced anguish, uncertainty, fear, and hope. We report these incidents on an international level and ask the governments of countries where people disappear to respect their lives and release them. As human beings we offer our help to those who suffer the torment of having an imprisoned-missing relative.

In this manner, Acafade adopts the demands and needs of the Committee of Mothers and Relatives of Political Prisoners-Missing Persons Murdered in El Salvador (Msgr Oscar Arnulfo Romero), before Salvadoran President Jose Napoleon Duarte for:

1. Release of the political prisoners, who for years have gone without trial.

2. Clarification of the whereabouts of the 5,000 prisoners-missing persons.

3. Punishment of the criminals protected by the government.

For the relatives, the "let's forget about it" proposal is not acceptable. "To wipe out" [borron] means to forget more than 40,000 unofficial executions and more than 5,000 prisoners-missing persons, which is impossible. "To start anew" [cuenta nueva] would mean more executions carried out without legal authorization and more prisoners-missing persons.

To say that the prisoners-missing persons are among the guerrillas is a crude joke and an effort to evade responsibility. It is a joke and an offense against the relatives.

No, Mr Duarte, do not try to play with the lives and liberty of thousands of Salvadorans. As commander in chief of the Armed Forces, you have to solve the problems stated by the Committee of Mothers and Relatives, who represent the clamor of the suffering Salvadoran people, in order to be consistent with your very publicized Christian Democratic government. Justice cannot be compromised. The prisoners-missing persons were taken alive, and we want them back alive. Until we find them!

Signed, National Association of Salvadoran Teachers (ANDES 21 June) Office of the General Secretary of the Executive Council

FDR LEADER SAYS GUERRILLAS WILLING TO ACCEPT TRUCE

PA181950 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1940 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Bogota, 18 Jul (EFE) -- The Salvadoran guerrillas today declared their willingness to accept a truce in the war that they are waging against the government. The announcement was made in Bogota by Mario Aguinada, an FDR representative. The guerrilla leader said that his group "wants to talk" with the Salvadoran Government to search for a solution, but it has not yet received an answer to the proposal it has already made to President Jose Napoleon Duarte.

HONDURAS URGED TO OPPOSE U.S. PRESENCE

PA190346 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 0100 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Text] Once again a U.S. aircraft carrier, the Kennedy, accompanied by a submarine, a frigate with missiles, and a tanker have arrived in Honduran waters as a show of aggressive Yankee presence in Central America. The U.S. vessels have approached Honduran coasts under the pretext of conducting maneuvers with approximately 100 aircraft, which include war planes and helicopters, although these maneuvers could be carried out very well outside the region. In addition, it was learned early this week that the Honduran Army has decided to send a large number of troops to the Honduran border with El Salvador, especially to the region bordering on Chalatenango Department, in order to maintain a permanent siege over our territory. This decision by the warmongering sectors of the Honduran military command reflects their intention to attack our people, under the orders of Ronald Reagan's government. There are backward sectors within the Army who want to revive the warmongering and aggressive policy of the ominous Alvarez Martinez, who was leading Honduras to a senseless war.

We reiterate our call to patriotic and nationalist sectors of the Army, government, and the sister people of Honduras to oppose the Yankee presence on their soil and complicity with the Salvadoran puppets. We are urging the Honduran people, political parties, unions, and labor associations to express themselves and demand the immediate withdrawal of U.S. troops, advisers, and military bases, which tarnish and trample Honduran sovereignty and independence.

FMLN COMMAND THANKS FRG PEOPLE FOR SUPPORT

PA181532 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 18 Jul 84

[FMLN General Command communique "published in several FRG papers"; date not given]

[Text] To the companeros at the FRG newspaper DIE TAGESZEITUNG BERLIN, and to the German people:

The FMLN General Command takes this opportunity to send greetings and a fraternal embrace to the management and workers of DIE TAGESZEITUNG BERLIN. We greatly appreciate the solidarity that you have constantly shown our struggle to secure our people's liberation. The Weapons for the People campaign has been made possible by the help received from the West German people, who have continued their unconditional solidarity for 4 years. Our struggle against the military intervention of Ronald Reagan's administration has been possible thanks to the heroic determination of our people under the leadership of their vanguard, the FMLN, and the support of the world's peoples. We ask you to continue and to intensify the Weapons for El Salvador campaign, now that the United States is preparing to step up its interventionist escalation.

Long live the peoples' solidarity with the children of Farabundo Marti!

United to fight until final victory! Revolution or death, we shall win!

[Signed] Commander Roberto Roca, Ferman Cienfuegos, Joaquin Villalobos, Leonel Gonzalez, Shafick Jorge Handal

[Dated] El Salvador, 16 July 1984

VENCEREMOS CLAIMS AIR FORCE BOMBS PEASANT AREAS

PA180528 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] We have received a report on a new genocidal action by Colonel Bustillo, leader of the winged death squad, which is what the Salvadoran Air Force represents for our people. The report states that a U.S. made Dragonfly A-37 aircraft dropped several bombs and massively and indiscriminately machinegunned the peasant population in the (Jicarey) and Amaya villages. We repeat: The bombings and indiscriminate machine-gunning took place in the (Jicarey) and Amaya villages, El Paisnal jurisdiction, San Salvador Department. While puppet Jose Napoleon Duarte pretends to be a saint in the FRG, here the Air Force planes -- the winged death squad -- drop more U.S. bombs over Salvadoran fields, massacring unarmed men, women and children.

VENCEREMOS REPORTS CASUALTIES AMONG ARMY OFFICERS

PA190414 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Text] Our guerrilla troops continue to defeat the Army directed and financed by the Yankees. Reports from the Canton of Jocote Dulce in San Jorge state that an officer of the puppet Army was wounded in combat with our forces. On 18 July at 0900, troops from the Commander Rafael Arce Zablah Brigade clashed with the Arce Battalion, causing three injuries to that group. Among these was an officer of the battalion, the one trained by the gringos in Honduras. This report was provided to Radio Venceremos by the military headquarters of the southern group of the Rafael Arce Zablah Brigade.

This casualty, this wounded officer, is added to the numerous casualties suffered by the dictatorship's Army in the past few days. Casualties among officers of the Army include one major, four lieutenants, one 2d lieutenant, and several noncommissioned officers.

GUATEMALA

MEJIA SAYS ASSEMBLY TO BEGIN WORKING 1 AUGUST

PA181947 Guatemala City EL GRAFICO in Spanish 18 Jul 84 p 10

[Article by Carlos Benigno Loarca]

[Text] Quetzaltenango, 17 July -- General Oscar Humberto Mejia Victores, head of state, has announced here that the new constitutent assembly will begin working on 1 August after the deputies, who were elected on 1 July, are sworn in. He made the announcement during a visit to this department on the occasion of the anniversary of Military Base No 17 (General Manuel Lizandro Baria). The head of state said that he hopes the Supreme Electoral Tribunal will complete the granting of assembly seats to the deputies who were elected so that the congress that will draft the Guatemalan constitution can be formally installed. He said that he expects to install the assembly in a special ceremony at the congress building on 1 August. Then, this parliament will be in charge of beginning the new constitutional process for Guatemala. Meanwhile, General Rodolfo Lobos Zamora, who also attended the base anniversary events, said that the Army has fulfilled the duties assigned to it, such as accomplishing the beginning of a new constitutional state. He explained that the Army is completely against carrying out any other process and that the Supreme Electoral Tribunal is in charge of the mechanism that was begun.

HONDURAS

PAZ BARNICA DISCUSSES REVIEW OF U.S. TREATIES

PA181407 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica interviewed by reporter Carlos Rubi; date, place not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Rubi] What did the high-level commission appointed by the president to review bilateral agreements with the U.S. Government discuss in its meeting today?

[Paz Barnica] President Roberto Suazo Cordova appointed a high-level commission to deal with various aspects of the initial issues involving Honduran-U.S. relations, to help to promote a better understanding, and to strengthen the friendship and cooperation between the two countries. This commission consists of the president; Armed Forces Commander General Walter Lopez Reyes; Presidency Secretary Carlos Flores Facusse; Colonel Efrain Gonzalez Munoz, chief of the joint general staff; and myself, as foreign secretary. We have already held several meetings, one of which ended only a few moments ago. We will continue to work very hard on positions that will permit the U.S. Government to acquire a more thorough and objective understanding of Honduras' needs at the various levels of bilateral cooperation, so that the friendly bilateral relations that now exist may be even further consolidated.

[Rubi] It has been said abroad that if the United States does not agree to a change in our treaties, which affect our country's dignity and interests, Honduras will have to renounce the 1954 treaty.

[Paz Barnica] The 1954 treaty is one of many agreements between the United States and Honduras. There are also many treaties between Honduras and other countries. We have treaties on economic cooperation and on technical, scientific, cultural, and other assistance with many of the world's countries. In the military context, we have the 1954 treaty with the United States. This agreement has certain clauses that refer to changes and adjustments in accordance with circumstances. According to international law, bilateral agreements may be reviewed and adjusted to circumstance. This can be also done with multilateral agreements. This is a legally valid fact, so I don't think there will be any of the problems you suggest.

[Rubi] Is the Honduran Government determined to ensure that the country's dignity is respected in modifying these treaties, so that Honduras will be an ally and not a mere U.S. servant?

[Paz Barnica] I believe, and I am certain that this is the belief of the president and of the Honduran Government as a whole, that any state calling itself sovereign and belonging to the international community has the obligation to maintain a dignified position in its relations with other states in the international community, particularly in this contemporary world, which changes so quickly and which is the source of so many confrontations, arguments, and controversies. This does not necessarily mean confrontations with the United States.

AIR FORCE SAID TO BE STRONGEST IN REGION

WA191220 Rome IPS in English 17 Jul 84

[by Manuel Torres]

[Text] Tegucigalpa, July 17 (IPS) -- The recent purchase of Brazilian Tucano planes and Spanish C-101 fighter-bombers has established the Honduran Air Force as the strongest in Central America, according to some military experts here. The new acquisitions have transformed the Honduran force from a "dissuasive" to a powerful combt unit, those analysts say, capable of striking the capital cities of any of its neighbors in less than 25 minutes. Other military specialists downplay the significance of the Air Force's new strength, arguing that it merely compensates for slower development of Honduras' infantry, artillery and armored vehicle and naval units.

And Honduran Government officials persistently maintain that the increasing Honduran firepower is needed to cope with southern neighbor Nicaragua, whose troop strength outnumbers Honduras' by four to one. Unofficial estimates put Honduran troop strength at 20,000. But the country does not have important support units such as Nicaragua's civilian militias. Honduran officials are thus concentrating on qualitative improvement in the Armed Forces to offset Nicaragua's numerical advantage. Relations between Nicaragua and Honduras are extremely strained because of frequent border clashes involving Honduras-based anti-Sandinist rebels. Tegucigalpa has recently made some conciliatory moves, however, announcing that the insurgents will be expelled from Honduras.

Honduras is asking the United States for in increase in the already considerable U.S. military aid here to train soldiers and to buy arms. The U.S. Government gave Honduras $37 million in direct military aid last year, and $78 million for this year. A total of $72 million in military assistance is projected for 1985.

The Honduran and U.S. Armed Forces are collaborating on a series of joint military maneuvres, during which the United States has set up "semi-permanent" military installations in strategic points throughout Honduras.

Those include radar stations and military landing strips in Jamastran, Cucyagua, San Lorenzo, Olancho, La Mosquitia and Palmerola.

Honduras' first military aviation school was founded in February 1936. At that time the Honduran Air Force was made up of only 16 large planes and three training craft, according to an Armed Forces publication. That fleet has now grown to at least 54 planes, including two Super Mystere's. The Israeli version of France's Mirage jet fighter, A-37's, known as Dragonflies, Saber F-86 planes, Aravas, Douglas C-47's Cessna 180's and T-41's and 17 helicopters. The Air Force recently purchased eight Tucanos, manufactured by the Brazilian Embraer company. The planes are classified as training planes, but are considered especially useful in guerrilla warfare. Two new Spanish C-101 propulsion fighter-bombers were exhibited last week at San Pedro Sula in northern Honduras, and six more are expected soon.

Honduran Air Force Commander Maj Jose Israel Navarro noted that "the High Command has given us the mission of guaranteeing the inviolability of (Honduran) air space and the tactical support needed for all the country's combat units."

The Honduran Air Force has already played an important combat role -- old Mustang planes from World War II were active in a brief war with El Salvador in 1969, known as the "100-hour war." One Air Force pilot who distinguished himself in that war was Walter Lopez, who is now Honduras' Armed Forces commander.

PINU PRESIDENTIAL CNADIDATE COMMENTS ON GOALS

PA181501 Tegucigalpa LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 17 Jul 84 p 3

[Report by Rene Cantarero]

[Text] Enrique Aguilar Cerrato, presidential candidate for the Innovation and Unity Party, PINU, said in an interview for LA TRIBUNA yesterday that PINU will win the 1985 general elections, "to rescue Honduras from its disgraceful capitulation to foreign interests, which is undermining the foundations of our nationality." Aguilar Cerrato, who will be officially nominated as the PINU's candidate for the presidency of the Republic at a special general assembly that will take place at Comayaguela's Centenario movie theater on Sunday, maintained that "we will win the 1985 elections."

In regard to his nomination, Aguilar Cerrato said: "I accept the nomination with humility, in full awareness of the responsibility that such a nomination entails, and with the firm determination that this crusade demands that we rescue our country. We will win," he declared. Aguilar Cerrato added that "this candidacy has been endorsed not only by PINU, but also by important activists in the National and Liberal Parties. As for the Christian Democratic Party, PDCH, I received only messages of congratulation and verbal support." "We are impressed by the number of young people who have no ties with political parties and who are showing a great deal of enthusiasm about joining the struggle to bring a new kind of government to Honduras, in which the people will be able to exercise power through an independent national congress and a judicial branch that is free of political influence," Aguilar Cerrato noted.

"Despite the threats that I am sure our political campaign will face, I am confident that the Hondurans will vote responsibly in 1985, brining a new political spirit to Honduras," he said.

Asked if he is expecting massive support from the Hondurans, he said: "I hope that they will support not a simple candidacy but a government platform that seeks to render the branches of government truly independent." "Domestically, it is important to rescue Honduras from its disgraceful capitulation to foreign interests, which is undermining the foundations of our nationality," he said, in an obvious reference to the U.S. presence in Honduras. Another goal that the candidate has is "to have all of our political and social institutions make peace with each other. They have, unfortunately, been divided and set against one another."

NICARAGUA

DEFENSE MINISTRY ON U.S. CARRIER, CONTRA TASK FORCE

PA190111 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Defense Ministry Public and Foreign Relations Bulletin No 2; date not given]

[Text] The Reagan administration is staging a new provocation in our territorial waters by ordering the anchoring of aircraft carrier CV-67 John F. Kennedy only 100 km southeast of the Port of El Bluff, near Bluefields, on the Nicaraguan Atlantic coast. This aircraft carrier, which is one of the world's largest, is reportedly anchored in Honduran territorial waters, where it was to have taken part in military maneuvers. However, following a short stay in that country it unexpectedly traveled to Nicaraguan territorial waters.

This new Reagan administration warmongering threat contrasts with the position of our government, which even began talks to improve deteriorated relations with that superpower, the United States.

No doubt this huge aircraft carrier has not come alone. Frigates equipped with powerful exploration and destruction cruise missiles [as heard] surround it. This monstrous maritime destruction apparatus was sent by Reagan, who apparently reasoned that he could impose on our revolutionary process within the peace talks.

The height of shameless counterrevolutionary operations was reached with the establishment of a task force called Kirkpatrick. The Somozist counterrevolutionaries could only respond shamelessly to the permanent defense and open support that they have received from the U.S. representative to the United Nations by christening a new task force with the name Kirkpatrick. There is no doubt that the choice of name has great significance, because the links to and the development of a situation that no one will be able to deny in the future are being seen clearly. It is thus clear that the counterrevolutionaries are fighting to establish, or rather restore, in Nicaragua the corrupt system that caused so much suffering and pain to the Nicaraguan people in the past, governed by the voice of the Yankee imperialists.

The counterrevolutionaries' aim is not only to impress their great and ardent defender -- who even said that Nicaragua was better off during the Somoza regime -- but also to get more support from Kirkpatrick and Reagan for their criminal operations against our people.

This new demonstration of a lack of morale and patriotism, nationality, independence, and self-determination, which are the unwavering banners of the Sandinist people's revolution, leaves no doubt. If they now baptize a task force with Kirkpatrick's name, it would not be at all strange to see over the next few months a Ronald Reagan task force. He directly promotes counterrevolutionary operations by approving millions of dollars and all kinds of support to the Somozist murderers.

USSR'S KOSHOYEV PRAISES SANDINIST REVOLUTION

PA190118 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 18 Jul 84 p 1

[By Luis Hernandez Bustamante]

[Text] "The fierce face of U.S. imperialism is once again being shown, at its fullest expression, with the barbarous aggression it is promoting against the Nicaraguan people," Temirbek Khudaybergenovich Koshoyev, deputy chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, told EL NUEVO DIARIO. The USSR official, who heads a high-ranking USSR delegation attending the 19 July celebrations, agreed to a short interview with EL NUEVO DIARIO following a visit to the Armed Forces Museum. The official was truly impressed with the museum.

Koshoyev praised the long struggle for the liberation led by the FSLN. He added that the exhibits at the museum show how machetes were turned into hunting instruments and later into rifles and cannons to destroy the hated Somozist dictatorship. He noted that as the weapons of the people's struggle changed amid great sacrifice, their organization and forces grew, and this led them to the triumph of a revolution that will, in a few days, celebrate its fifth anniversary.

The Soviet leader added that the aggressions promoted by imperialism are intended to block the consolidation of the revolutionary process and attack the legitimate sovereignty of the country.

He went on to say that imperialism had not achieved its objectives of domination and added, "we believe that all peoples, great or small, anywhere in the world, must decide on their own their destiny and defend their way of life."

Kosheyev said that "the North Americans must know that the days when they could manipulate political figureheads, change dictators, and impose leaders on people are over." He stressed that the United States does not have the capacity to turn back historical development. "While visiting the museum," he added, "we observed how this country's revolutionary movement has developed and how, as the weapons improved, the FSLN's organization grew." "If the North Americans," he added, "were not able to defeat the revolutionary forces, who in the early days were operating separately, they will not be able to defeat the Nicaraguan revolutionary forces who are now organized and enjoy the support of the people throughout the country."

Koshoyev added that Nicaragua is not alone. This fact is confirmed by the attendance of delegations from all over the world who have come here to celebrate, together with the Nicaraguan people, the fifth anniversary of the Sandinist people's revolution.

He recalled that in the face of the critical situation of aggression experienced by Nicaragua, "the world is now following closely what is happening in this country, and all the progressive forces of the world express their firm solidarity with the just struggle being waged by Nicaraguans to consolidate revolutionary achievements and ensure the sovereignty and independence of the country."

"I would like to take this opportunity," he added, "to ratify on behalf of the Soviet Union and the Soviet people our firm solidarity with the struggle of the Nicaraguan people, our best wishes for their happiness and the sure future of the Nicaraguans." "We wish you every success in the goals set by the revolution in the construction of a new and happy life for Nicaragua."

SURINAME'S BOUTERSE ARRIVES FOR CELEBRATION

PA182229 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega Saavedra, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, this morning welcomed Suriname's head of government Desire Bouterse at the Augusto C. Sandino International Airport. Bouterse, who is the leader of his country's revolution, is one of the leaders of friendly countries attending ceremonies as special guests to commemorate the fifth anniversary of the Sandinist people's revolution **tomorrow,** 19 July. Shortly after their welcome, the visiting delegation reviewed a ceremonial guard on the airport's runway, greeted Nicaraguan officials and members of the diplomatic corps represented in Nicaragua, and then left for Managua's convention center. Bouterse was accompanied by Captain (Ethien Bureben), (Arthur Gorr), and (Harvey Naredor). Suriname was formerly Dutch Guiana and is located in the Caribbean of the South American continent. Its population is 31 percent Creole as a result of the mixture of Europeans, Africans, and Asians who settled there. Indonesians and east Indians are in the majority.

BORGE ADDRESSES SANDINIST ASSEMBLY ON REVOLUTION

PA181709 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2317 GMT 17 Jul 84

[Interior Minister Tomas Borge Martinez' speech at Cesar Augusto Silva Convention Center in Managua during extraordinary session of Sandinist Assembly to announce FSLN candidates for 4 November elections -- live]

[Text] Nicaraguan brothers: Five years have passed since our people overthrew the Somoza dynasty. It has now been 5 years since hope replaced disgust and death. They have been dramatic and splendid years. It has been 5 years since the prophetic struggle of that humble worker and unsurpassable guerrilla leader, Augusto Cesar Sandino, who shall live on forever, came to an end.

In tense 5 years, the dreams of Carlos Fonseca -- who followed in Sandino's footsteps, who was a clear and wise thinker, a strategist who taught us to gain supporters for the revolutionary transformation of the nation's reality, our founder, our leader and brother -- have been carried out in this land.

Almost 2 decades of war in the mountains, the cities, and our consciences, leaving thousands and thousands of dead, was the price we paid to ensure that Nicaragua could begin to exist. Without the struggle that was carried out in those years, promoted and implemented by the people's vanguard, the FSLN, we would not have had a 19 July today.

Our vanguard has grown and multiplied. Since its birth, it has renounced routine and fear in order to launch a daring revolutionary plan that is in full progress today. The results of Sandino's heroic prophecy and of Carlos' wise strategy have already become a part of our daily life. A total of a million Nicaraguans are studying; 3 million manzanas of land have been distributed by the agrarian reform for the benefit of the people; and our infant mortality rate has been reduced by at least a third; these are some of the gains that we have the pleasure of celebrating today.

The Sandinists' unity was the result of a historic need, but also the result of the political maturity of the leaders of this revolution. The unity of the FSLN at the time of fighting and differences was initiatlly demanded by its members. Today, the Sandinists' unity is more than a need, it is an order that must not be questioned, an order from all of the Nicaraguan people.

This is not an artificial unity, based on concealment and deception. It is a unity built around an explicit program and a definite banner. This is not a crippling unity, dogmatically imposed. This unity is alive; it reflects the contradictions of life, from which it draws nourishment. This is why this unity is destined to grow, because our unquestionable National Directorate, the leading collective political guide of the Sandinist people's revolution, is working now and will always work to implement and develop, daily and fearlessly, the fundamental principles that have inspired and will continue to inspire our struggle and that are like the very air we breathe.

The challenge resulting from the destruction of the dictatorship's power apparatus has consolidated our Sandinist unity; the intitutionalization of the revolutionary process must renew it, as with oxygen. In Nicaragua, this institutionalization is merely a contribution to the essential requirement of expanding the revolutionary process.

The complex universe that characterizes the state organization, with all of its many dimensions, has never once disrupted the balance that existed within the revolutionary government, yet it has helped us to gain maturity and confidence. The defense of our fatherland -- harassed with mortars and slander and attacked by assassins and liars -- has also strengthened the unity of the Nicaraguan revolutionaries. These 5 years of development of a revolutionary power, which grows without artificial fertilizer, have served to turn a group of young leaders, my brothers in the National Directorate, into experienced rulers and skillful political leaders. Their work is inspired by the living hopes of the FSLN founders.

These 5 years have laid the groundwork so that the accumulated experience can be projected into the immediate future. The birth that tore at the entrails of this land has already taken place. It is now a matter of expanding the revolution, of giving continuity to the historic event that took place on 19 July.

The institutionalization of the process calls for advancing with renewed energy, in order to develop and consolidate the party of Nicaraguan revolutionaries, the FSLN: both telescopically and microscopically, the backbone of the revolution, the sentinel of revolutionary purity, and the guarantee of strategic firmness.

We will thus consolidate the defense of our right to be ourselves and of our unalterable course toward the construction of a superior social plane. We will thus ensure that our national dignity remains firm, without ever giving in, and that the preponderant role of the revolutionary classes is guaranteed.

Of all of the revolution's achievements, the most important, the most sacred, is the fact that for the first time in history Nicaragua is Nicaragua and we Nicaraguans are Nicaraguans. Nicaragua had been sentenced to serve as a torture chamber, a theater of fraud: men without land, children without schools, sick people without hospitals, a faceless homeland.

Nicaragua is now having its fifth birthday, Nicaragua finally exists, and because it exists we have conducted a literacy campaign and have revived culture. There is freedom to create because Nicaragua exists. Nicaragua finally exists, and because it exists we are and will continue to be implacable toward those who are seeking to deny our homeland the right to exist and those who want it to revert to a humiliated colony, the echo of someone else's voice, the shadow of some other body. Nicaragua exists, unleashing the creative energy of its people, who were never a herd and who know very well how to distinguish between fraternal and fertile criticism and the poisonous work carried out by its enemies.

The people have both the right and the duty to freely express both their desires and their criticism. The revolutionary who does not practice criticism and self-criticism is probably a conformist and is suspect of someday becoming a counterrevolutionary.

Nicaragua finally exists, and because it exists we taught 500,000 people how to read and write. We put an end to polio, we saved the lives of many children who were dying like flies because of starvation or disease, and we distributed land, rifles, and hope among the people.

Nicaragua finally exists, and because it exists we have been able to successfully face such tremendous and constant aggression. It exists because we have been able to confront our own mistakes. Our enemies do not seek to destroy the FSLN as a political party, but to eliminate from the face of the earth what the FSLN represents as a historic plan. But history is as stubborn as a mule from Chontales and, like a compass, it willfully persists in its effort to point its needle in a single direction.

As long as the revolution exists, Nicaragua will exist. As long as the revolution exists, our national sovereignty will not be negotiable. As long as the revolution exists, the people's economy will not be negotiable, nor will our people's power democracy be negotiable.

The revolution will continue to live as long as the revolutionaries give it life and remain willing to give their lives for the revolution. Neither backwardness, nor poverty, nor aggression, nor imperialism, no one, will be able to destroy this revolution. As the lessons learned from history show, we revolutionaries are the only ones who could ever destroy this revolution, the only ones who could make it possible for Nicaragua to cease to exist again.

Many have wondered: What is the secret of such strength? How can a small country, impoverished because it was eaten piece by piece, survive and triumph? How can this country of only 3 million people fearlessly confront the all-powerful empire that manufactures and exports wars and dictatorships and continuously plays with the fate of billions of human beings?

We find the answer in a humble woman from Ocotal. On the very day that this city, located so close to the border, heroically and victoriously repelled a counter-revolutionary attack, that woman, Companera Petrona Zelaya, told us, while raising her rifle and looking up: They will not pass here, because my children, my brothers and sisters, my parents, and neighbors are here, and we will not let them pass. And if we die, the children, the brothers and sisters, the parents, and the neighbors in other neighborhoods, in other areas and villages, will not let them pass.

That day we once again felt that we were atop the Zipote Hill, in Sandino's unconquered fortress; we again experienced hunger and cold through the guerrillas of the Coco River, Bocay, Pancasan, and (Sila Grande). They will not pass here.

Yes, companera from Ocotal, companeros everywhere, brothers from Nicaragua: They will not pass. [applause]

They will not pass. We are an unconquerable people. We have every moral right to shout: Free fatherland [listeners respond "or death!"] [applause]

PRAVDA REPORTS INTERVIEW WITH CARLOS NUNEZ

For a PRAVDA report on an interview with Carlos Nunez Tellez, member of the FSLN National Directorate and president of the State Council, see pages 2 & 3 of Latin America & Caribbean section of the 19 July Soviet Union DAILY REPORT.

STATE COUNCIL VICE PRESIDENT ON U.S. TALKS

FL181759 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2000 GMT 17 Jul 84

[Text] Commander Leticia Herrera has said that Nicaragua demands that the United States end its aggressions in Nicaraguan territory and the financing of the counterrevolution, but its revolution and principles are not negotiable. Before leaving for Nicaragua, she said that today her government will give the Contadora Group Managua's reply to the proposal for peace and cooperation in Central America and its views of the points with which it does not agree.

The vice president of the Nicaraguan Council of State said that the pronouncements of the U.S. Democratic Party regarding its support for a political solution in Central America are a sign that the possibility exists that the U.S. Government will change its policy towards the region and especially towards Nicaragua.

Herrera said that representatives of her country will hold talks in Atlanta, Georgia, with U.S. authorities until tomorrow in an attempt to normalize relations, which have become very thorny since the Sandinist revolution began. She said that in these negotiations Nicaragua will uphold the position that it is ready to maintain relations with all nations regardless of their political system or ideology, provided that Nicaraguan sovereignty and the right to self-determination are respected.

Again mentioning Contadora, she said it is her opinion that the peace proposal will help to make the United States stop intervening directly in the counterrevolution because if it does not, the Latin American revolutionary movement will be destroyed.

Commander Leticia Herrera was here to attend the ceremonies held in commemoration of the fifth anniversary of the Nicaraguan revolution.

FSLN INVITES REGISTERED PARTIES TO DIALOGUE

PA181815 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Giving proof of the spirit of national unity motivating the FSLN factions, a spirit evident in the important announcements made yesterday at the end of the meeting of the Sandinist Assembly, the FSLN National Directorate has invited the legally registered political parties to participate in a dialogue on the country's situation. The state of emergency and the electoral process will be the main topics of this meeting to begin at 1800 at the FSLN National Directorate offices in Managua. The parties which make up the Ramiro Sacasa Coordinating Board and the Patriotic Front of the Revolution have already announced their participation.

In the moments the country is experiencing, we feel that the FSLN initiative is clear evidence of its concern over the fate of the Nicaraguan people and the country. One must recall that within this same context, the revolutionary government is holding talks with the U.S. Government searching for the necessary practical mechanisms to arrive at negotiations which provide solutions to the Central American crisis.

Opposition Seeks Postponement

PA182026 Managua Radio Noticias in Spanish 1200 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Excerpts] The Ramiro Sacasa Guerrero Democratic Coordinating Board had an urgent meeting yesterday to analyze a letter sent by the Sandinist Front coordinator inviting them to a meeting today. At their meeting, the members of the Coordinating Board agreed to ask the Sandinist Front to postpone today's meeting because, as explained by Dr Ignacio Miranda, leader of the Constitutionalist Liberal Party, which is a member of the Coordinating Board, almost all of the opposition leaders will be busy today with previous engagements.

Let us hear Dr Miranda explain why he will not be able to attend today's meeting called by the Sandinist Front:

[Begin recording] [Miranda] Through a very special letter we have been invited [words indistinct], by sheer coincidence we have been invited for today, after so many years of requesting such a meeting of both the Sandinist Front and the government junta. We are surprised that it is not until today -- after invitations have been extended to all the international delegations to participate in the 19 July festivities -- that we have been extended this invitation.

At our meeting yesterday, the members of the Coordinating Board studied this invitation and a letter will be written in response. We find it impossible to attend this meeting today, but we would like to meet with them in the next few days. Right now, it is impossible. Our agenda is already filled with previously called meetings.

[Unidentified reporter] You do not discard, Dr Miranda, the possibility that a meeting might be held at some other time?

[Miranda] Not only are we not discarding this possibility; this is what we want. However, we do not want them to take advantage of this day in particular. [end recording]

USSR'S GROMYKO AWARDED ORDER OF JOSE MARTI

FL181106 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] By order of the Cuban Council of State, the Order of Jose Marti has been awarded to Andrey Gromyko, member of the CPSU Politburo. The decree states that the decoration is in recognition of Gromyko's friendship and solidarity with the Cuban revolution. Gromyko, who is also first deputy chairman of the Soviet Council of Ministers and foreign affairs minister, received the Order of Lenin, his country's highest honor, on Tuesday. That honor was presented to Gromyko on the occasion of his 75th birthday, which he celebrates today, for the great services he has rendered to the Communist Party and the Soviet State, as set forth in the decree published in Moscow.

NEW U.S. NAVAL TRAINING EXERCISE NOTED

FL180205 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 17 Jul 84

[Text] U.S. naval presence in Central America will soon increase significantly with the sending of a flotilla led by the flagship aircraft carrier Kennedy into the area. The official pretext is that a special combined air and sea training mission is being conducted along the Honduran coast.

U.S. TUNA EMBARGO AGAINST MEXICO DISCUSSED

PA181838 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] The U.S. embargo against Mexico constitutes another contradiction between the two countries. PRELA correspondent in Mexico City Juan Roberto Loforte talks about this from the Mexican capital:

[Begin Loforte recording] In an effort to counter the negative effects of the tuna embargo that has been applied by the United States for 5 years now, Mexico is trying to increase its tuna exports to the EEC. As a result of this effort and some European nations' interest in Mexican tuna, more than 15,000 tons of tuna will be sold to the EEC this year.

Since 1976, when the Mexican Government decided to cancel the agreements allowing U.S. vessels to fish freely in Mexican waters for tuna, the U.S. administration has enforced a total embargo on Mexican tuna and shrimp exports. Hundreds of illegal fishing boats bearing U.S. flags have been seized by the Mexican Navy in Mexican waters, while their illegal catch has been confiscated and their captains have been fined and tried by Mexican courts.

Despite many talks and various contacts between the two countries' authorities, the United States has continued to enforce the embargo and has asked that its boats be allowed to fish freely in Mexican waters, arguing that tuna is a migrating species that reaches maturity in Mexican waters.

In turn, Mexico demands respect for its territorial waters and its exclusive economic zone. It demands that a tax be paid for fishing for tuna in its jurisdictional waters. Historically, Mexican tuna exports have normally been targeted at their natural market, the United States. For this reason, the U.S. embargo has disrupted the entire tuna industry, and has remained one of the most serious problems in Mexican-U.S. relations. [end recording]

VISA HOLDERS DELAYED IN DEPARTURE FOR PANAMA, U.S.

PA181937 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1730 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Cubans who are waiting in their country to leave for Panama in transit to the United States today complained about the delays they must endure because of the Panamanian elections and U.S. restrictions.

There are more than 500 Cubans who are holding Panamanian visas and airplane tickets. It has been reported that in the past some 700 Cubans entered Panama each month in transit to the United States, paying approximately $3,000 for a Panamanian visa. In addition to the 500 Cubans who have already paid their airline fares to travel to Panama, there are another 4,000 Cubans who have their visas and are preparing to come to Panama, the immigrants said.

Cubans who thought they would be in Panama either by 26 April, 3 May, or 10 May, are facing problems because of the delay since some of them gave up their jobs and even their homes. They said that some of them will be leaving Cuba tomorrow, Thursday. It has been established that Cuban immigrant groups will no longer be large: a maximum of 40 Cubans per month, an average of 10 per week.

CASTRO HAILS NICARAGUA ON SANDINIST ANNIVERSARY

PA181959 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Cuban President Fidel Castro has asserted that the Nicaraguan people's determination to struggle in view of Washington's increasing hostility makes it deserving of the solidarity of all progressive forces in the world.

In a message sent to the Nicaraguan Government on the occasion of the fifth anniversary of the Sandinist people's revolution, Castro denounces the threat of direct U.S. intervention that hovers over Central America. Concerning this, he explains that Washington's interference is expressed through its support for the counterrevolutionary bands that operate against Nicaragua, as well as its increasing military presence on Central American soil, which is marked by constant provocative maneuvers.

However, Castro stresses, the Sandinist revolution advances in all areas and, with a firm position marked by principles, it has dealt serious setbacks to the enemy in the political and military areas, while demonstrating its frank willingness to hold a dialogue in search of the peace that is so needed by the Central American nations. The path of the revolution is hard and difficult, Castro's message to the Nicaraguan leaders states in conclusion, but the Nicaraguan people will be equal to their historic and glorious task.

Further Report

FL190138 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2130 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Fidel has sent a message to Nicaragua's Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction and the FSLN's directorate. On the fifth anniversary of the Sandinist people's revolution, we want to express to you and to the heroic Nicaraguan people, our fraternal congratulations.

On 19 July, Nicaragua achieved a definite independence after some 50 years of brutal Somozist dictatorship, which was destroyed by the victorious shots of the FSLN -- the historic vanguard that is guiding the Nicaraguan people to new victories.

During these last 5 years, the Sandinist people's revolution has achieved noteworthy efforts in the difficult and complex task of eliminating social injustices inherited from the former regime, of rebuilding a devastated nation, and advancing in the construction of a new Nicaragua.

These decisive transformations have had to be made in the midst of a fierce hostility from U.S. imperialism, which has used economic barriers, political isolationism, and military aggression against Nicaragua -- through the use of Somozist mercenaries and traitors to Sandino's homeland who operate from Nicaragua and Costa Rica.

The present U.S. administration has instigated the mining of ports, the attacks on industrial plants and airports, and is fast preparing the conditions for a direct invasion by U.S. troops into Central America. In this effort it is conducting permanent military maneuvers in the area, and maintains military bases, troops, and war material as a permanent threat against peace and security of the peoples of this hemisphere.

Faced with these attacks and threats, you have maintained a firm stand on principle, and have caused your enemies great defeats in the political and military terrain, as well as having shown your frank disposition toward dialogue in a search for a peaceful solution to the difficult moments which Central America is living through.

The Nicaraguan revolution can count on the unanimous solidarity of all the peace-loving peoples of the world, the democratic governments and progressive forces, and the honest men of the world. The path of a revolution is hard and difficult, but the Nicaraguan people will know how to measure up in its historic and glorious work.

Please accept our most fraternal and warm congratulations.

[Signed] Fidel Castro Ruz, President of the Council of State of the Government of the Republic of Cuba.

'OUR AMERICA' PRAISES SANDINIST ACHIEVEMENTS

PA190322 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 18 Jul 84

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] This Thursday the Sandinist revolution will celebrate its fifth anniversary. When the FSLN fighters victoriously entered Managua, on 19 July 1979, ending almost 50 years of Somozist terror, the peoples of our America were witnessing the materialization of the first genuinely popular revolution in Central America.

Many thought that the youths who proclaimed Nicaragua's second independence on that day would not be capable of reconstructing a country virtually in ruins and which had suffered from one of the worst and most brutal dictatorships in the region. However, the achievements made in these past 5 years are the most valid proof that these youths not only knew how to lead the country to socio-economic development but at the same time knew how to defend it and the people from constant aggression, provocations, and pressures of all types exercised then and now by the imperialist U.S. Government.

Much is left to be done in Nicaragua. Many schools, hospitals, and economic development plans are still to be completed and promoted, but what is most important is that the revolution has known how to maintain itself, resist, and advance despite aggressions by its enemies within the country and abroad.

The Nicaraguan Revolutionary Government has taken important steps in educational development and public health. Hundreds of thousands of peasants and laborers learned to read and write during the literacy crusade. More than 80 percent of the school-age population today has schools, while educational plans are promoted on a nationwide scale for adult peasants and laborers. In the field of health, infant mortality has decreased from 120 to 85 in every 1,000 children born alive. Meanwhile, no cases of poliomyelitis have been reported in the past 2 years. Life expectancy has increased, new jobs were created, peasant families continue to receive lands as part of the agrarian reform currently underway, and in the past year Nicaragua has registered an economic growth rate of 5 percent.

All of the socio-economic advances in Nicaragua have been obtained -- and it is good to reiterate this — in the midst of a situation of war that has forced the Sandinist government to designate human and material production resources, to the country's defense. Nicaragua's northern and southern borders have been and continue to be subject to continuous attacks by counterrevolutionary groups operating from bases in Honduran and Costa Rican territory. Thousands of anti-Sandinists have attacked Nicaragua time and again in these past 5 years in actions at times covert and at other times open, in an effort to destabilize the government.

However, as a result of their continuous failures, the U.S. CIA, which finances and organizes these groups, had to demand from the anti-Sandinist leaders new actions to justify the economic support they receive from Washington. The armed anti-Nicaraguan actions have not succeeded. The CIA finally turned to the dirty trick of mining Nicaraguan ports to isolate the revolution internationally. In response to the rejection and international indignation resulting from this cowardly action, the U.S. Government had to accept responsibility for this act of vandalism, although it stated that it would not accept the decision of the International Court of Justice at The Hague, which demanded that Washington stop attacking Nicaragua.

This military aggression has cost the Nicaraguan people the lives of thousands of their best sons, and it has cost the country's economy millions of dollars in damages. The attacks have not stopped, and today they are taking on a new dimension because of the general elections scheduled for next November. The United States is determined to thwart the elections; it is convinced that they will result in the people's reaffirmation of their support of the revolution. In effect, this is how it will be. The elections will be another victory for the new Nicaragua, celebrating the fifth anniversary of the Sandinist revolution, which has the solidarity and sympathy of all the peoples of our America and the rest of the world.

NICARAGUA'S REVOLUTION ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATED

FL170125 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 17 Jul 84

[Text] The principal event commemorating the fifth anniversary of Nicaragua's revolution took place this afternoon at the FAR's Universal Hall. The event was presided over by Politburo members Julio Camacho Aguilera and Jorge Risquet Valdes. Members of the Central Committee and diplomatic corp were present as well as representatives in Cuba of El Salvador's FMLN.

Nicaragua's ambassador to Cuba Marco Antonio Valle Martinez spoke on behalf of Nicaragua.

[Begin Valle Martinez recording] Brother Cubans and Nicaraguans present here, the principal task of the Sandinist peoples revolution at present is defense, and the military aspect plays the major role. Today the emblem of Nicaragua is: Everything for the war fronts, everything for those who are fighting. This slogan summarizes, consolidates, and synthesizes the present atmosphere on arriving at the fifth anniversary of our triumph, the fifth anniversary of that glorious 19 July, 1979. [applause] [end recording]

Politburo member Julio Camacho Aguilera made the concluding remarks at the event.

[Begin Camacho Aguilera recording] The entrance of thousands of Sandinist Front combatants into Managua, the days of 19 and 20 July 1979, are unforgettable historical events. [applause] [end recording]

POLAND'S VICE MINISTER OF NATIONAL DEFENSE VISITS

FL181639 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Division General Antoni Jasinski, Poland's vice minister of national defense and chairman of the Polish-Cuban Friendship Association, has laid a floral wreath at the foot of the Jose Marti Monument in Revolutionary Square. Accompanying Poland's deputy minister of national defense were Mario Rodriguez, vice president of the Cuban Institute of Friendship with Peoples, and Polish Ambassador to Cuba Stanislaw Jarzabek. The distinguished visitor arrived in our country yesterday on the occasion of the commemoration of the 40th anniversary of the founding of the Polish People's Republic.

Tours FAR Academy

FL181854 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Division General Antoni Jasinski, Polish vice minister of national defense, today visited the General Maximo Gomez Revolutionary Armed Forces Academy accompanied by Division General Senen Casas Regueiro, alternate member of the Politburo and first vice minister of the FAR. General Jasinski and his entourage were received at the Maximo Gomez Academy by Brigadier General Manuel Fernandez Falcon, director of the academy, and other officers.

At the academy, the Polish general participated in the main FAR ceremony commemorating the 40th anniversary of the liberation of Poland. The opening remarks were made by Brig Gen Fernandez Falcon, who stressed the deep friendship existing between the Armies of Cuba and Poland. The closing speech was made by Polish Vice Minister of National Defense Division General Antoni Jasinski.

PANAMANIAN ASSEMBLYMEN END VISIT, DEPART

FL181714 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Prior to departing for the Republic of Panama, that fraternal country's assemblymen, who visited Cuba at the invitation of the National Assembly of the People's Government, held a brief interview with our correspondent.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] What can you tell me about your visit to Cuba?

[Unidentified assemblyman] Well, I believe this visit has achieved what we had planned in Panama. It will contribute to further strengthening the friendship which exists between the Cuban and Panamanian peoples through their leaders. As legislators, we have gained a lot of knowledge from the Cuban people. When we report to the assembly, we will give information reflecting the truth about Cuba, which is quite different from the distorted facts they now have about the Cuban people. Our visit caused some controversy when we departed because the media questioned our objectives. We came here to learn about the great accomplishments of the Cuban people in these past years of revolution, and to meet the leaders, who are devoted to serving the people and who have a great human quality. It has been an unforgettable experience for all the Panamanian assemblymen who made this trip.

[Reporter] The canal treaty will come to an end in 1999, that is, the Panama Canal Treaty. In this sense, we would like to know at what stage of the game is the fulfillment of the treaty by the United States?

[Assemblyman] Well, our country has been continuously denouncing violations of the treaties. We are currently examining all problems dealing with the unfulfillment of the Torrijos-Carter treaties and, with the well-known patience of all Panamanians, we hope they will be resolved. All things have a limit. [end recording]

DELEGATIONS TO ATTEND NICARAGUAN EVENTS

CSSR Delegation Visits En Route

FL181732 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Mikulas Beno, member of the Central Committee Secretariat of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, and his accompanying delegation have visited the Ernesto Che Guevara Central Pioneers Palace. The Czechoslovak party leader arrived in our country en route to Nicaragua. Mikulas Beno said he was moved by all he saw at the Pioneer installation, which reflects the prospects of future generations in this society.

USSR Delegation in Nicaragua

PA171936 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 17 Jul 84

[Text] Temirbek Koshoyev, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, has reiterated in Managua his country's rejection of the United States' aggression against Nicaragua. Koshoyev leads the official USSR delegation to the ceremonies that will commemorate the fifth anniversary of the Sandinist revolution's victory. Upon his arrival in the capital he was welcomed by Sergio Ramirez, member of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction. Koshoyev said that the Soviet Union strongly condemns the United States' hegemonic policy, which seeks to crush the Sandinist revolution, and advocates a peaceful solution to all the conflicts in Central America, the Caribbean, and the world.

It has been reported in Quito that an official delegation of the Ecuadoran Social Christian Party will travel to Managua on Wednesday to attend the ceremonies marking the Sandinist revolution's fifth anniversary.

The continental march for peace and life arrived in Nicaragua on Monday to assert its solidarity with the Sandinist People's revolution. The 52 participants carried out a hazardous march which began in Lima, the Peruvian capital, and proceeded across Ecuador, Colombia, Panama, and Costa Rica.

Cubans Arrive in Managua

FL182355 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2130 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Osmani Cienfuegos, Politburo member of Cuba's Communist Party Central Committee, today arrived in Managua heading a delegation which will participate in the events being held for the fifth anniversary of the triumph of Nicaragua's revolution. Jose Lopez Moreno, vice president of the Council of Ministers Hector Rodriguez Llompart, minister president of the state committee for economic cooperation, Manuel Pineiro, chief of the Central Committee's Latin America department, and Rene Rodriguez, president of the Cuban Institute of Friendship with Peoples, make up the delegation. Receiving the Cuban delegation were, Commander Mauricio Valenzuela, minister of construction, Carlos Zarruck, minister of transportation, and Commander Oscar Cabezas, chief of the Ministry of Interior's political directorate.

FSLN NOMINATES D. ORTEGA, RAMIREZ FOR ELECTIONS

FL181146 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] The FSLN has nominated Commander Daniel Ortega and Dr Sergio Ramirez as candidates for president and vice president in next November's elections in Nicarauga. That announcement was made at the end of an extraordinary session in Managua of the Sandinist Assembly, the consultative organ of the FSLN National Directorate. Another reason the assembly was convoked was to confirm the candidates for deputy, who were nominated last Sunday for regional assemblies, which are headed by the current president of the Nicaraguan Council of State, Commander Carlos Nunez.

The FSLN is the fourth party to designate its candidates for the 4 November elections. The Nicaraguan Socialist Party, the Popular Social Christian Party, and the Social Christian Party have already made their nominations. At the close of the session, Daniel Ortega announced the FSLN's 23-point battle plan, which embraces all aspects of Nicaraguan life.

NICARAGUA'S BORGE EXPLAINS PRIESTS' EXPULSION

PA172058 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 17 Jul 84

[Text] Nicaraguan Interior Minister Tomas Borge has asserted that the 10 foreign Catholic priests expelled from the country were leaders of ideological task forces and violated the law when they participated in political activities against the Sandinist government. The priests were expelled because they tried to provoke a rift between the Nicaraguan state and the Catholic Church, and not because they offered mass, wore cassocks, heard confessions or baptized, Borge said during a ceremony held on Ometepe Island where more than 3,000 hectares were delivered to local peasant families. Tomas Borge, member of the FSLN National Directorate, asserted that the Nicaraguan revolution has no rift with the Catholic Church's hierarchy due to any religious reason, but because it advocates U.S. imperialistic policy against Nicaragua.

LISBON MEETING INVITATIONS CRITICIZED BY SOCIALISTS

FL172214 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1809 GMT 17 Jul 84

[Text] Napoleon Duarte, head of the Salvadoran regime, might soon visit Portugal, as part of his tour to several West European countries. This announcement was reported by Lisbon's media, and has not been refuted by official sources, although nothing has been said about an arrival date.

Prime Minister Mario Soares has invited Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries, Salvadoran Government officials, and two of Duarte's personal envoys to a meeting on [Latin] America, but has excluded Sandinist representatives. Leaders from the Socialist International in Latin America and Western Europe have criticized the absence of Sandinist Front representatives and Contadora Group delegates from the meeting in Lisbon.

EL SALVADOR'S DUARTE SECURES RESUMPTION OF FRG AID

PA181742 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Amidst irate protests by political parties and solidarity organizations, Jose Napoleon Duarte, chief of the Salvadoran regime, succeeded in securing a resumption of FRG economic aid.

After a 3-hour meeting between Duarte and FRG Chancellor Helmut Kohl, an official communique was released announcing the determination to resume FRG's financial assistance to the Salvadoran regime, including approximately $10 million that had been frozen since 1979.

It has also been reported that a group of demonstrators placed a large number of effigies before the FRG Foreign Ministry, denouncing the complicity between Kohl and the genocidal policy of Duarte, who is held responsible for more than 20,000 deaths during his former presidential period from 1980 to 1982.

The ecology-oriented Green Party has issued a declaration charging that with the FRG is advocating a military solution in Central America by this rapprochement with the Salvadoran regime.

URUGUAYAN REGIME LIFTS MEASURES, SEEKS DIALOGUE

PA172002 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 17 Jul 84

[Excerpt] The Uruguayan military government yesterday lifted two institutional decrees limiting public rights and citizens' rights. The decision was adopted after a series of meetings between the high military leadership and President Gregorio Alvarez in an attempt to create a climate advocating a dialogue with the political parties regarding the return to a democratic system of government.

Approximately 25,000 persons participated yesterday in a demonstration in downtown Montevideo demanding the release of National Party leader Wilson Ferreira Aldunate, who has been under arrest for 1 month. The demonstration was called by the National Party which has excluded itself from the talks with the Uruguayan military regime to protest Ferreira Aldunate's arrest.

URUGUAYAN ARMED FORCES TO RELEASE PRISONERS

PA182138 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] The Uruguayan Armed Forces announced last night that in the next few days it will release those political prisoners who have served half of their sentences and that it will revamp the Christian Democratic Party as the initial step in the reorganization of the Broad Front leftwing coalition before November elections.

The Military High Command made its decision known to the representatives of the political parties that are participating in the talks to reestablish Uruguayan democracy. Observers estimate that the partial amnesty will benefit some 600 of the approximately 700 political prisoners in Uruguay.

Other dispatches from Montevideo indicate that despite his poor health and the prolonged fast that he has been staging, Adolfo Wassen has stated that he has the strength to continue fighting for the release of all of Uruguay's political prisoners, Wassen, one of the nine Tupamaro hostages the regime is holding who has cancer and is expected to die soon, has been staging a hunger strike for the past 17 days to demand a general amnesty.

URUGUAY 26 MARCH MOVEMENT AIDE ON ELECTIONS

PA182150 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] (Nino Ruffo), representative of the 26 March Movement of Uruguay, will now discuss his organization's current goals.

[Begin recording] Today, the 26 March Movement, an independent organization, concentrates all of its energies on two aspects we consider fundamental. First, all of our militants, both in and out of the country, are determined to foster the people's mobilization through any means. In our opinion, this mobilization must include massive demonstrations, such as the one staged on 1 May, organized by the country's workers. However, this mobilization must first encompass a daily militancy beyond the legal framework established by the dictatorship, a mobilization that will truly express the people's power, which is growing.

Second, our movement devotes [word indistinct] to promote more than ever the Uruguayan people's true program for solutions. We are convinced that the people will only find true solutions to the country's basic problems through agrarian reform bank nationalization, establishment of the people's power, and deep, democratic, and anti-imperialist means. [end recording]

Regarding the main steps needed to achieve democratic solutions in Uruguay, (Ruffo) said:

[Begin recording] At this stage it is fundamental for us to create greater awareness of the fact that only through the Broad Front platform and the 30 points that we propose as a minimum program will it be possible to find the solutions that the country needs. Our independent 26 March Movement understands that today's awakening of our people, as well as the propaganda being conducted, must serve to create the political and organizational tools that will allow us to win the homeland for all in the near future.

We stress that we cannot accept any electoral plan if minimum conditions are not met to guarantee such an election first. For instance, it is not possible to accept elections while prisons are full of political prisoners, while there are still nine hostages threatened with death by the dictatorship, such as Raul Sendic and eight other leaders of the National Liberation Front, Tupamaros.

It is not possible to accept the validity of elections while Broad Front and other political, progressive sectors of the country are outlawed. Neither is it possible to accept elections while more than 500,000 Uruguayans are in exile. Only when our conditions are met -- full amnesty, the return of all political parties and forces to full legal status, and the exiles' return -- will it be possible to think that the elections promised by the regime for this November can truly be the beginning of a democratic path in the country. Otherwise, such elections would only play along with the Armed Forces vast plan in the country.

Keeping in mind the fulfillment of these minimum conditions so that a democratic government can be set up, our organization, headed by General Liber Seregni and with all Broad Front forces, is waging an important struggle to achieve agreement and unity among all truly democratic forces in the country. [end recording]

CHILEANS ASK MEXICO'S HELP TO SAVE KIDNAPPED EXILES

PA172119 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 17 Jul 84

[Text] The Chilean People's Democratic Movement [MDP] issued a communique asking the Mexican Government to do everything possible to save the lives of Chilean exiles Eduardo Contreras and his wife Beatriz Torres, who were kidnapped in Mexico City by unidentified elements yesterday. Until the 1973 coup, Eduardo Contreras and Beatriz Torres were members of the Chilean Congress representing the Communist Party.

C.R. RODRIGUEZ PRESIDES AT GRADUATION CEREMONY

FL171201 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1106 GMT 17 Jul 84

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, member of the Politburo and vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers, and Humberto Perez Gonzalez, alternate member of the Politburo and president of the Central Planning Board JUCEPLAN presided over the graduation ceremony of 367 economists at the Higher Institute of Economic Management. The rector of the institute spoke, reminding those present that eight years had passed since the institute — formerly called the National School of Economy -- began its first course.

CABRIZAS ADDRESSES FOREIGN TRADE GRADUATES

FL171857 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1400 GMT 17 Jul 84

[Text] At the graduation ceremony of the students of the Foreign Trade Institute, held in the historical Abel Santamaria park-museum in Santiago de Cuba, young persons from Havana City Province and workers from the eastern provinces were awarded diplomas. In his closing speech, Foreign Trade Minister Ricardo Cabrizas transmitted to the graduates the warmest greetings and congratulations of Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, Politburo member and vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers. He mentioned the desire of the students of the Foreign Trade Institute to graduate in the city of Santiago de Cuba, stating that this wish was granted because of their good grades. Cabrizas also mentioned the fact that in 23 years the Foreign Trade Institute has trained 8,722 foreign trade officials.

PENA GOMEZ RETURNS FROM TRIP WITH EUROPEAN AID

FL182120 Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish 12 Jul 84 pp 1, 10

[By Manuel Silvestre and Arsenio Ramirez]

[Excerpts] Dr Jose Francisco Pena Gomez, mayor of the National District and principal leader of the Dominican Revolutionary Party [PRD], declined to clarify his position on whether or not he will become a presidential candidate. Pena Gomez also announced that a large amount of economic aid had been obtained from the European and Latin American nations he visited during a 3 week tour. He added that he had obtained a commitment from an important Italian petroleum company to conduct explorations in the Dominican Republic. Pena Gomez spoke before an enormous crowd of followers who congregated at La Trinitaria Plaza to give him a warm welcoming. Penza Gomez arrived in a private plane from Venezuela at 1800, and was met at the Las Americas terminal by a committee of high PRD and government leaders.

On the possibility of running for president Pena Gomez said that he would not run against a fellow party member. He added that at the moment he was more interested in acting as the doctor who would give the PRD the "blood transfusion" which would strengthen and unify the party. Nonetheless, he said that sooner or later he would become president of the Dominican Republic -- in spite of opposition from Dominican and North American reactionary groups, because Dominicans are the ones who have the best worldwide relations. On worldwide relations, Pena Gomez said that on his tour through England, France, Italy, Spain, Portugal, and Venezuela he met with world renowned leaders. A Among those he met with were: German minister [as received] and current president of Socialist International Willy Brandt; the leader of the British Labor Party; French Prime Minister Pierre Mauroy; Portugal's Prime Minister Mario Soares; Costa Rica's President Luis Alberto Monge; Italy's Prime Minister Bettino Craxi; Spain's Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez; Venezuela's President Jaime Lusinchi; Venezuela's former President Carlos Andres Perez; and international secretary of Sweden's Social Democratic Party, Pierre Schori.

Pena Gomez said that France donated 10 garbage compacting trucks, 2 tractors, 2 excavating machines, and a work shop valued at more than 6 million pesos. Also donated were 2,000 pounds of wheat, valued at 600,000 pesos, and a large quantity of medicines. Italy donated 15 trucks and 15 small trucks, worth 6 million pesos, a cargo of medicine worth 1.5 million pesos and 10 million peso financing to build the Rio Jaco Dam. Italy also donated 15 million pesos for use in cleaning the lake formed by the Valdesia Dam. Pena Gomez added that Italy will donate an additional 6 million pesos in October and will send doctors who specialize in disease prevention programs. They will work in Santo Domingo's poor sections and in the interior of the country. He said Italy also donated freeze-dried foods for low income families and that it will send a technical group to help the government extract gold from the Pueblo Viejo and Cotui mines. Spain will donate a cargo of food and medicine for the poor, 20 children's libraries, and 20 clinics for low income neighborhoods. Pena Comez said that Venezuela's President Lusinchi had promised ample cooperation in the buying of sugar in exchange for petroleum, and in obtaining soft credit for purchasing paving material for Santo Domingo's streets. That credit would be within the terms of the San Jose Convention.

BAHAMAS

DEMONSTRATORS DEMAND PINDLING'S RESIGNATION

FL182252 Bridgetown CANA in English 2148 GMT 18 Jul 84

[By Larry Smith]

[Text] Nassau, Bahamas, July 18, CANA-REUTER -- About 1,000 people led by opposition politicians defied a police ban today and marched on Parliament to demand the resignation of Prime Minster Lynden Pindling. A royal commission of inquiry is investigating charges that Pindling and members of his Progressive Liberal Party government took huge payoffs to allow the Bahamas to become a haven for drug smugglers.

The crowd outside Parliament swelled to about 5,000 after the march. Government politicians, among them Deputy Prime Minister A.D. Hanna, were booed and heckled as they arrived for today's session of Parliament, which was boycotted by the opposition. Pindling avoided the demonstrators by slipping into the building early.

Police commissioner Gerald Barlett had refused to issue a permit for the march and threatened "strong and appropriate action" if it went ahead, but no arrests were reported.

Kendal Isaacs, leader of the opposition Free National Movement and a former attorney general, called the police ban an attempt by the government to stifle free speech. "This march," he said, "represents the stand that all Bahamians must be taking to see that justice, democracy, and freedom remain."

Cecil Wallace-Whitefield, chairman of the Free National Movement, led the call for Pindling's resignation. "We are no longer satisfied with his shoddy government," he said, "and he will have no choice but to call an election before the end of the year."

Party leaders described the march as perhaps the biggest political demonstration in the Bahamas since the 1960's, when the territory was still a British colony and Pindling's party was battling an entrenched white minority regime. All 11 members of Parliament from the Free National Movement boycotted the 43-seat body today to lead the march.

The commission of inquiry, headed by a former chief justice, has been hearing testimony implicating Pindling and colleagues of his for more than six months. It is expected to report by the end of September.

BERMUDA

TOURISM MINISTER DISMISSED FROM CABINET

FL181804 Bridgetown CANA in English 1748 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Hamilton, Bermuda, July 18, CANA -- Tourism Minister Clarence Woolridge was yesterday sacked after 13 years in Cabinet, Premier John Swan confirmed today. Swan is expected to appoint Youth, Sport, and Recreation Minister Irvin Pearman to the tourism post and make other Cabinet changes, political sources said. Tipped to take Pearman's present post is backbencher Maxwell Burgess. Woolridge, 57, has been tourism minister for seven years and previously was minister of labour and immigration for six years.

The ROYAL GAZETTE newspaper said today that the final nail in Woolridge's political coffin was driven by his failure earlier this month to vote with the government on a controversial development proposal. The GAZETTE said it was no secret that relations between Swan and Woolridge have been sour for some time and that the collapse of the Big Coral Island Timesharing Operation "all but tipped the scales against the tourism minister last year." It added: His tenuous hold on his Cabinet post was weakened further by reportedly bad relations with new Tourism Director Andrew Vladimir and slumping tourism figures. Tourism figures for the first five months of the year were 7.4 per cent down on last year.

Clearly distressed at being fired, Woolridge said he had no comment to make to the press. Industry and Technology Minister Dr John Stubbs has already told the premier that he would like to step down from Cabinet but sources said he is prepared to remain at least until the end of September.

DOMINICA

DLP CALLS CHARLES' STATEMENTS 'IRRESPONSIBLE'

FL180230 Bridgetown CANA in English 2306 GMT 17 Jul 84

[Text] Roseau, Dominica, July 17, CANA -- The opposition Dominica Labour Party (DLP) in a statement has criticised Prime Minister Eugenia Charles for statements she made in a British newspaper interview. Miss Charles was quoted by the DAILY TELEGRAPH as saying she could count on U.S. aid in putting down any left-wing coup attempt here.

DLP leader, former Prime Minister Oliver Seraphine, described the remark as being "irresponsible and baseless." He said it "will further aggravate our negative climate for foreign investment." He continued, "The Labour Party considers this left-wing coup threat of Prime Minister Charles as being one which panders to the foreign press, has no local merit, and is merely a cheap election device to bring back memories of the good old days in 1981 when Prime Minister Charles' Freedom Party government enjoyed sympathies from the electorate."

Miss Charles was among Caribbean leaders who backed President Reagan's decision to send troops to Grenada last October to oust a military junta.

JAMAICA

BANK DENIES REPORT OF SUSPENSION OF OIL AID

FL182118 Bridgetown CANA in English 1739 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, July 18, CANA -- The Jamaica Central Bank said today it knew nothing of a reported suspension of Venezuelan aid to the island under the San Jose oil accord because of interest payments arrears on petroleum purchases. "We know nothing about that... we have no such information from the Venezuelans and it is we (the Central Bank) who are signatories to the agreement," said Deputy Governor Dr Owen Jefferson.

Under the San Jose agreement first signed in 1980 between Mexico and Venezuela, the two countries ship up to 160,000 barrels per day (bpd) to 10 beneficiary countries in Central America and the Caribbean. Twenty per cent of the cost of the oil is discounted, and the beneficiaries are to deposit this sum in their Central Banks as medium and long term loans at low interest rates. Jamaica under the accord can receive from Venezuela up to 16,000 bpd.

A Caracas newspaper yesterday reported that the Venezuelan investment fund had suspended the rebate aspect of the agreement to Jamaica until this Caribbean island pays interests on loans granted under the accord. Other sources here have long been indicating that the Venezuelans were concerned that the savings were not being used for development or energy-related programmes, as was conceived under the accord.

The Venezuelan state oil holding company (PDVSA) has also reportedly decided to embargo a shipment of 200,000 barrels of oil to San Jose until the Costa Rican oil refinery meets an overdue payment of five million U.S. dollars.

Because of a foreign exchange crisis, Jamaica has not been meeting its interest payments to Venezuela on the oil rebate loans, and the Central Bank governor, Horace Barber, is due in Caracas this week to seek to reschedule 73 million (U.S.) dollars in debts to that country. Jamaica is also seeking debt rescheduling arrangements with Mexico.

A suspension of the scheme to Jamaica by Venezuela could mean that the island would have to meet in the short term the full cost of its oil imports and possibly have to pay cash up-front.

Jamaica's Mining and Energy Minister Hugh Hart has told reporters that a shipment of crude is to arrive from Venezuela this week, to reactivate state-owned Petroleum Refinery which has been dormant for several months. "Venezuela has been most cooperative and most understanding at all times," said Hart, who added that there was "a temporary financing arrangement" for the shipment under the terms of the accord. He did not specify what the terms of the arrangement are.

Jamaica had been importing finished petroleum products while its refinery remained idle, and several weeks ago Prime Minister Edward Seaga said that the plant had not been closed because of supply problems but for refurbishing.

ST VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

SUGAR PRODUCTION UP 427.3 TONS OVER 1983

FL141912 Bridgetown CANA in English 1657 GMT 14 Jul 84

[Text] Kingstown, St Vincent, July 14, CANA -- The St Vincent and the Grenadines sugar industry, revived in 1980, this year produced 2,746.5 tons of sugar -- 427.3 tons more than last year, according to official figures released here.

Industry manager Dudley Rose said St Vincent was able this year to resolve some of the problems it had faced since the growing of sugar cane on a commercial basis was revived. He said repairs to some of the machinery at the lone Mt Bentinck sugar factory had improved its efficiency, the sucrose content of the cane had improved, and that a better quality sugar was produced. Rose said, however, there was still a shortage of transportation and that an additional 500 to 1,000 acres were required to make the industry viable. He did not indicate how the industry had done financially since it was revived.

The sugar produced here is for local consumption only. Up to last year, St Vincent had been saved more than 7.5 million dollars (one E.C. dollar; 37 cents U.S.) in foreign exchange by local production of sugar.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

PARTIES ISSUE JOINT STATEMENT ON 'UNITY'

FL180226 Bridgetown CANA in English 2323 GMT 17 Jul 84

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, July 17, CANA -- The official opposition three-party National Alliance and the Organisation for National Reconstruction (ONR) say they are committed to electoral "accommodation."

The political groups fought local government elections on a joint platform last August and won control of the majority of local governement authorities from the ruling People's National Movement (PNM).

Following what were called "productive talks" last night, the Alliance and the ONR today issued a statement saying their basic task called for continuing frank and free analysis and discovering ways of cementing their relationship.

The ONR is not represented in Parliament but received more than 20 per cent of the vote in the last general elections in 1981. The Alliance comprising the United Labour Front (ULF) the movement has 10 of the 36 seats in the House of Representatives. [passage as received]

The groups also announced they had agreed to set up a committee to consider the issue of sister isle Tobago.

The committee is charged with taking all steps necessary to support Tobago's people in their "struggle for justice, development, and self expression," and to give full support to the DAC [Democratic Action Congress] in forthcoming Tobago House of Assembly elections there.

Relations between the DAC-controlled Tobago Assembly and the PNM have been strained for sometime.

The committee set up by the group is headed by DAC chairman A.N.R. Robinson and includes ONR leader Karl Hudson-Phillips, ULF leader Basdeo Panday (eader of the opposition), and Tapia Chairman Bhoe Teewarie.

"The PNR and the Alliance are committed to accommodation as an irrevocable step to national unity," the joint statement said.

BURNHAM WILL NOT ATTEND U.S. CONFERENCE

FL181754 Bridgetown CANA in English 1611 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, July 18, CANA -- Guyana will not be represented at the talks tomorrow in South Carolina between United States President Ronald Reagan and leaders of Caribbean countries, a Foreign Ministry official said today.

President Forbes Burnham was invited to the conference, arranged by the University of South Carolina, the official said. White House spokesman Larry Speakes said the talks are an attempt "to strengthen the close ties among Caribbean states."

Guyana's socialist government has not enjoyed good relations with Washington in recent years. Invitations to attend the session were extended to Caribbean Community (Caricom) heads of government during their recent summit in Nassau.

In addition to the 13 Caricom states and Anguilla, other countries invited are Martinique, Guadeloupe and French Guiana, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, the Turks and Caicos Islands, the Netherlands Antilles, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

PRESIDENT TO MEET WITH BOUTERSE, RAWLINGS

FL181756 Bridgetown CANA in English 1601 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, July 18, CANA -- President Forbes Burnham will hold separate talks today with Flight Lieutenant Jerry Rawlings, the Ghanian leader, and Surinamese military strongman Lieutenant Colonel Desi Bouterse at Temehri International Airport, a spokesman for the Presidential Secretariat said. Both foreign leaders will be making short stop overs at Temehri on their way to Managua, Nicaragua, to participate in celebrations to mark the fifth anniversay of the Sandinista revoltuion. The celebrations take place tomorrow.

VICE PRESIDENT DEPARTS FOR NICARAGUA CELEBRATIONS

FL181758 Bridgetown CANA in English 1557 GMT 18 Jul 84

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, July 18, CANA -- Vice President Desmond Hoyte left here today for Nicaragua to attend the fifth anniversary celebrations tomorrow of the victory of the ruling Sandinists, the Foreign Ministry said.

He will be joined in Managua by Guyana's non-resident Ambassador to Nicaragua Noel Sinclair. The ruling Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN) came to power in 1979 after overthrowing Nicaraguan Dictator Anastasio Somoza.

"Guyana's presence at the Sandinist victory celebration is a manifestation of this country's solidarity with the Nicaraguan people and support for their efforts to defend Nicaragua's sovereignty," the Foreign Ministry spokesman said.